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THURSDAY, MARCH 7TH, 2013

CARDIFF ROAD, BARRY INDUSTRIAL ESTATES

More than meets the eye! Pages 20-22

BRIDGEND INDUSTRIAL ESTATE

Business update... Pages 24-25

Professionals - Just a stone's throw away!

RETURN OF THE SHOWMAN!

Vernon's encore at Barry Island



Vernon Studt is maintaining a family fairground tradition on Barry Island that goes as far back as the 1800s.

REPORTS of the demise of Barry Island's Pleasure Park have been greatly exaggerated - Swansea-born showman Vernon Studt has pledged to return to the resort for another summer!

Vernon has become a popular character on the Island in recent

by TIM CHAPMAN

summers, personally welcoming many of the day-trippers and tourists eager to have a go on the rides he brings to the Island.

He told The GEM: "We will be starting to set up things this weekend and will open the weekend before Easter - Saturday, March 23 and Sunday, March 24."

Vernon has used all his powers of persuasion to get his colleagues in the fairground business to bring back their attractions for another holiday season run.

"The weather was so bad last year - but I've told them it wasn't just Barry that suffered, they suffered elsewhere too."

"We should have 15 rides ready for Easter, including the 'Reverse Bungee' ride, which comes from Gloucester and was featured two years ago."

Part of the confusion as to whether Vernon and the funfair would return was due to the TV series *Summer in Wales*, which showed the Pleasure Park sign being pulled down.

It led people to think the planned new development was about to go ahead.

Vernon explained: "People in Swansea saw the programme and thought the rides on Barry Island had closed down for good, but I explained that wasn't the case until all the planning had gone through."

Steeped in the fairground tradition - Vernon's great-great Uncle Jacob brought rides to the Island in the 1800s - he refuses to be downhearted by one poor summer.

"Last summer was a disaster. We lost four major Bank Holidays, but it can't be as bad as that again."

Pleasure Park owner Ian Rogers has run a lease agreement with Vernon in recent years while details are finalised on an indoor leisure complex and residential accommodation on the site.

Vernon is more than happy with his Pleasure Park encore, and added: "When there's sunshine at Barry Island, the people will always turn up and everyone's spirits improve."

Good Evans!

FIVE GENERATIONS OF A BARRY FAMILY



The Evans family of Barry were thrilled with the birth of young Alfie on February 1, which took them to five generations! GEM photographer Andy Wicks was on hand to capture their celebration of Alfie's recent birth. Pictured with Alfie is great-great-grandmother Jean (90), great-grandmother Sue (65), grandmother Rachel (40), and mum Jess (20).

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HIRE ASSOCIATION MEMBER

QUAKERS AND 'GAY MARRIAGE'

THE ongoing public debate about 'gay marriage' appears to miss the point entirely as far as I can judge.

The present situation is that Quakers, who themselves are largely heterosexuals, like most of us, would want to be able to carry out wedding ceremonies for lesbian and homosexual couples, who wish to enter into a permanent, responsible relationship, which marriage is declared to be, but the existing law prevents Quakers from doing so.

My own opinion is that a change in law would be a great benefit to the couples, and especially to any children they might have. But my own opinion has nothing whatever to do with the

matter of ruling other people's lives. It is not a matter of our approval or disapproval.

The Quakers wish to have a religious ceremony for these couples, which invokes the blessing of Almighty God upon their lives, dedicated to each other.

How can we justify a law which restricts the religious freedom of these good people from following their sincere beliefs?

The law of the land is not there to feed or satisfy my prejudices against anyone, but rather to give freedom of conscience to all citizens, most especially in matters of their deepest faith and social unions, unless I can prove someone will suffer personal damage from the consequences.

Neville Westerman, Brynna.

When black and white GIs were kept apart

IN January 2012, The GEM carried a lengthy article about the presence of black US soldiers in the Vale headed 'Remembering World War Two - when black US soldiers were stationed in the Vale'.

Although I did not live in the Vale at that time, my next door neighbour, the late Mrs Morgan, lived on Barry Island, before and throughout the war years.

She remembered the special hut on the corner of Dyfrig Street, wired and connected to the lock gates below to

'blow them up', should an invasion occur.

More pertinently, she remembered the armada of ships that gathered in the 'Barry Roads', ready to sail to France on D-Day.

One Naval ship departing from Barry carried on deck hundreds of American soldiers - black soldiers at the front - then three lines of MPs (military police) and, at the rear, white Americans.

The MPs kept them separate (the American Army was organised in separate black and white regiments then) to stop them fighting each other on the way to liberate Europe!

Christopher Short, Barry.

COULD YOU TRAIN SOMEONE TO SAVE A LIFE?

HEARTSTART UK, in association with the British Heart Foundation, will launch soon in the Vale.

We are looking for volunteer trainers to deliver Heartstart courses to members of the public.

If you feel that this is the opportunity you have been looking for to volunteer in your community and help to save lives, email: heartstartvaleofglamorgan@gmail.com.

Ford Brazel, Scheme director/co-ordinator.

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We will (in certain circumstances) protect a writer's identity, if requested. Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, Don John, at Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7E OR email gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk

'WHERE IS SCHOOL CLOSURE REPORT?'

HOPEFULLY, by the time that this letter appears, the Vale Council's cabinet will have decided not to close any of the schools that had been under threat.

The campaigns mounted by the three schools have certainly been effective, but it is worth perhaps looking at how this situation has come about.

The Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Committee set up a 'task and finish' group which appears to have looked at the issue of school places in some detail. This group consisted of five members, three from the ruling coalition. They reported back to the full committee with a report which recommended,

Questions remain on school closures

THE closure cloud hanging over Oak Field School has now been lifted, but the political parties, particularly Labour, have a lot of questions to answer about causing anxiety within our community.

From what I can tell, the issue of surplus places in primary schools has been around for some time, initially raised by the Welsh Government, and probably kicked into the long grass by the previous Tory council.

However, the way the Labour-led council has handled this matter has been a shambles.

They have emphasised that it was a scrutiny committee making the recommendations to close three schools -

someone had decided that this issue should remain a confidential matter, thus tying the hands of other councillors into the secret process (gagged, as one councillor described).

Headteachers and chairs of governing bodies had also been told to keep the matter confidential - and when it was predictably leaked, the Labour leaders wanted to just focus attention on the suspected leakers. Everyone involved knew the intention of the Vale Council to shut Oak Field School; neither Gibbonsdown councillor came out in support when the Gibbonsdown community needed them the most.

I think it's fair to say they 'toed the party line' or chose the Labour party over the Gibbonsdown voters. **Jeffrey Heathfield (FocusBARRY Supporter)**

Step into real world

IREAD with some dismay that the Vale Council is now planning a council charge hike of 4.8 per cent on the people of the Vale; this does not include any further hikes in Barry Town Council's charge - neither does it include any other charges from the police precept.

This, just like Cardiff Council, is a Labour-led council. How on earth can they justify this enormous, disgraceful increase in council tax when the people are struggling to get by, day by day?

More and more people are being dragged into the council tax sys-

tem due to cuts to benefits. We have a bedroom tax that's coming in soon which will hit tens of thousands of people on housing benefit. Many thousands of people are taking huge pay cuts, including employees from the Vale Council.

Thousands of people have not had a pay rise for over three years. Cardiff councillors are soon to vote on whether to receive top of the range iPads, along with Nokia 100 mobile phones, and a colour laser printer.

It's about time Vale councillors stepped out of their plush offices and walked into the real world.

DJ Radford, Barry.

among other things, the closure of three schools.

When this was considered on January 21, the report and its recommendations were backed and referred to cabinet.

The full committee consists of 10 members, six of whom come from the ruling coalition, five Labour and one Llantwit First. So very nearly a quarter of the coalition support (supported?) closure.

Subsequently, I understand that the head teacher and chairman of governors of Llanfarc Primary School (and I suspect the two other schools) were requested to attend a meeting with officers to be informed of the proposed closure.

They were asked not to disclose what they had been told. The chairman of governors of Llanfarc Primary School was not prepared to withhold this information from her governing body.

If she, and others, had done what they had been asked, then there would have been no campaigns and perhaps no change of heart.

This was how the story was 'leaked'. The interesting thing about the meeting when the head teacher and chairman of governors of Llanfarc Primary School were informed of the intention was that Coun Chris Elmore, the cabinet member for children, was also present. What was his role and position at this time?

Presumably he was aware of why the meetings were taking place and therefore, why did he allow them to go ahead, and therefore cause so much uncertainty and distress, if he did not support closure?

Finally, the scrutiny report which is going to affect the lives of the Vale's children in many ways is still not in the public domain. When are we going to know what was, and what still is, proposed?

Gordon Kemp, Walterston

'Don't kick Oak Field as it gets off the floor'

ONCE again, by not turning up to the meeting regarding Oak Field School, Coun Curtis has let the people who elected him to office down.

His letter to the parents of Oak field School takes the biscuit.

He described the surplus places as 'the ugly truth' and also stated he 'had to declare an interest'; but other councillors have expressed their views and voted when it comes to issues relating to their school.

There are, of course, other ugly truths which would not have supported his position when he wrote this letter and not just the one that fits with his position when sticking to the party line before they hit the brick wall.

Another one of those ugly truths is the council's secrecy on school closures...

Gibbonsdown is one of the most deprived areas in Wales and has just a few facilities.

There is also the failure to appoint a school head for Oak Field in the past few years, but still the

school has made good progress since its last inspection.

They need support from this council and from the ward councillors, not a kick when they are getting back up off the floor!

Let's not forget the ugly truth of building 177 houses close to the school, as well as thousands more around the town. I suspect we can expect many more children on the Oak Field School site in the future.

We are going to need more local schools - not cars, taxis and buses to transport these children to more distant locations.

Sadly, it seems that another ugly truth is when the people of the Gibbonsdown ward need the help of their elected representatives we should expect nothing - that way we won't be disappointed.

Let's hope that at the next election the people of Gibbonsdown ward will have had enough of inaction and will vote for the candidates who truly care about the community in which they live!

Ann Crawley, Barry.

'Stand up for your sport' - GEM reader

ISEE that the attack on the Grand National and horse racing has started early this year - it seems the RSPCA are not happy with 40 runners, and having John McCricker as the only line of defence on the news item, does not help.

Enough is enough - the powers that be should stop apologising and pandering to the likes of the RSPCA, who have lost their purpose and have become the mouthpiece of people who know very little about horse racing.

The RSPCA wasted thousands of pounds on prosecution for fox hunting, instead of spending money on the welfare of animals.

It is the police who should prosecute if any laws have been breached - so it should be the people in charge of horse racing who should take the lead in horse welfare and stop pandering to the likes of the RSPCA and other organisations.

I would urge all who love horses, owners, punters, jockeys etc to stop giving donations to the likes of the RSPCA and give to a new or existing charity that deals directly with horse welfare.

Why continue to support the RSPCA who want to stop all jump

racing? Make no mistake, their continued attack on the Grand National is just the start.

They dislike your sport, but use your donations to kill your sport. Stop committing suicide, stand up for your sport.

I watched the news where three horses in a pen were stunned before slaughter during the recent horse meat crisis. Your aim should be; that no racehorse is sold for slaughter, using money raised by people in racing to give to a new charity, instead of the RSPCA; any prizemoney over £30,000 deduct five per cent; ask bookmakers to make annual donations to ensure and achieve the goal of no ex-racehorse being slaughtered.

I am just an average Joe. I hate fox hunting, would never do it, but I am a city bloke and respect the right that 'country bumpkins' do fox hunt. It was their heritage, same as I do not understand why some religions are allowed to kill animals as part of their religious culture. Not for me, but again I respect their right to do so. You do not see or hear of the RSPCA trying to stop animal sacrifice, but they are only too keen for your sport to be banned.

Make no mistake, if you do not act now your sport will go the same way as fox hunting!

Chris Herring, Barry.

Watch out for the birds

WE are currently passing through that time of year when the stresses and strains on our garden wildlife are at their worst.

With temperatures regularly dipping below freezing and the wind and rain lashing anything in its path, any animals hoping to survive will need a regular supply of nutritious food.

Recent reports suggest a marked decline in the number of our garden birds over the past 20 years, a drop of 44 million birds - that's one fifth of our UK bird population!

But we can all play a part in helping our birds survive this bitter winter weather, by putting out quality seed, fat balls, peanuts and mealworms in appropriate feeders.

Coun Rob Curtis, Barry.

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL MARCH 14)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary.

For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 - 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
	AM	M	PM	M
07 Thur	01.47	7.9	14.29	7.7
08 Fri	03.13	8.2	15.47	8.3
09 Sat	04.13	8.9	16.50	9.1
10 Sun	05.12	9.5	17.33	9.5
11 Mon	05.59	9.9	18.20	9.8
12 Tues	06.41	10.2	18.55	10.1
13 Wed	07.17	10.2	19.34	9.9
14 Thur	07.55	10.1	20.11	9.9

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should always check with a tide table specific to their location.

Economic boost as Royal Signals move to the area

A TOTAL of 600 soldiers and their families are coming to St Athan in a move that will see the Ministry of Defence (MoD) spending £50 million on infrastructure improvements on the camp.

More cash will be spent because a condition of the move is that the Welsh Government should fund road improvements around the St Athan complex.

Vale MP, Alun Cairns, has welcomed the news, and says it will secure the long-term future of the MoD base at St Athan.

The 600 soldiers comprise the Royal Signals, and the Vale's gain will be Pembrokeshire's loss, because the regiment is moving out of its Cawdor base, which will close.

Mr Cairns said that the arrival of the regiment would give a massive boost to the local community and wider economy.

He said: "The

announcement will guarantee MoD funds in the area, with increased spend from soldiers through to contracts for local builders for structural projects on site."

The move has come about after a MoD review considered the future of every military base around the country to establish how each could match the changing form and size of the armed forces.

Mr Cairns said: "St Athan could have been closed for development purposes but it will become one of the UK's key military bases."

He continued: "Winning the Royal Signals is a coup for St Athan. They are experts in electronic warfare which, along with the presence of Special Forces at the base, puts St Athan at the cutting edge of the changes to modern conflict."

"There is already much activity on site with the Special Forces, which has seen significant investment over recent years."

"The nature of their role however, means that little information is shared with the wider community."

"The announcement

also means that Wales will get a larger proportion of the MoD spend.

"The decisions have been made on military assessments but the support from the communities have also played a part."

"I brought the Armed Forces Minister to look around the St Athan site and to meet key community leaders last October. The site spoke for itself but local councillors and community leaders played an impressive part by showing how welcoming we were to more activity within the MoD wire."

Vale AM Jane Hutt said: "St Athan and the surrounding community has a history of welcoming and supporting the

Forces and their families who have been stationed in the Vale over the past century."

"The news that the 14th Signal Regiment will be stationed at St Athan is welcome, with the accompanying UK Government investment necessary."

"Alongside the development of the Aerospace Business Park as part of the Welsh Government Enterprise Zone, this is a welcome boost to jobs and growth in the local economy."

Mr Cairns added: "As part of the arrangements, the Red Dragon Hanger will transfer to the Welsh Government for Aerospace use, as per their request. There is also a land swap with the

Welsh Government to make better use of the site."

"New facilities need to be built on site to accommodate the additional numbers from the new regiment."

"I also want to continue to work with the surrounding communities to ensure that relations with the military families remain positive."

The Leader of the Welsh Conservatives, Andrew RT Davies AM, said: "I welcome the news that the long term future of the MoD base at St Athan has been secured."

"This will be a huge boost for the local economy."

PHILIP IRWIN

Councillor wins climate change leader award



GIBBONSDOWN Labour councillor, Rob Curtis (above), has won the 'most inspirational leader' category at the Climate Week National Awards in Parliament on Monday (March 4).

The awards recognise individuals and organisations who are committed to protecting the environment and tackling climate change.

Coun Curtis commented: "Being recognised nationally is a wonderful honour, but I could achieve nothing without the support of my fellow volunteers, councillors and the people of Barry who support my work."

"I am really sorry I am unable to be at Westminster, but it is the

day of my Council's cabinet meeting and there is an important report on the agenda concerning the future of one of my local schools, which I feel I must speak on."

"Winning this award is a fantastic morale booster and will help me in my aim to put the protection of our environment and climate change at the heart of local decision making."

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CRUSE GROUP

CRUSE bereavement has recently set up a new friendship group in Barry, with free tea or coffee.

It is run by Cruse volunteers Linda Rees and Angela Williams in the community room at Barry Fire Station, 1pm to 2.30pm.

The next meetings are on the Fridays, March 15, April 5, and April 19.

For further information contact Linda Rees on 07977 571381

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Macebearer search!

If you are a local person with a love of the ceremonial, Barry Town Council may have just the role for you.

The council is looking for someone to carry out the role of macebearer during the mayor's civic duties.

A spokeswoman explained: "This is a voluntary vacancy, approximately 15 hours per annum, and expenses will be paid."

"The macebearer will be required to carry out his or her role during the Annual General Meeting, the Mayor

Making Ceremony, which is held in May, the Civic Service in July, on Remembrance Sunday and any other occasion deemed suitable."

"The role involves leading the civic procession and carrying the mace dressed in robe attire."

Anyone expressing an interest in the role should contact Mr Cliff Lewis, the town clerk at Barry Town Council, 7 Gladstone Road, Barry CF62 8NA; e-mail: clifflewis@barry-towncouncil.gov.uk; or telephone 01446 704926.

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SHADOW SECRETARY OF STATE'S BARRY LINK



A VALE St David's Day dinner heard that Owen Smith, the Shadow Secretary of State for Wales and MP for Pontypridd, has strong connections to the local area – he was once a member of Barry Sixth Form!

Also at the Labour Party event were Vale AM Jane Hutt, Stephen Doughty MP, who was brought up in Llantwit Major, and Vaughan Gething, AM for Cardiff South and Penarth.

They are pictured here with Jess Peters, chair of Vale Youth Forum.

Campaigners meet local MP on tour of House of Commons



Steve Blakeman, Alun Cairns MP, and Marilyn Brown.

TWO campaigners from Barry who are calling for changes to the way ATOS runs the benefit assessments, were taken on a tour of the Commons by Vale MP Alun Cairns.

After speaking to Mr Steve Blakeman and Ms Marilyn Brown, the MP promised to look into the issue. They were able to tour the Palace of Westminster, before joining their local MP on the terrace area alongside the Thames.

"Both were also going to meet Lord Dafydd Wigley to discuss the matter further," Mr Cairns reported.

Local Scouts' helping hand for Bird Nest Box launch



BARRY District Scouts in Rhoose helped Aberthaw Power Station with a special Valentine's Day launch of National Bird Nest Box week.

The boxes, provided by the Wildlife Trust in partnership with the power station, were constructed by the Scouts for their own gardens to encourage native nesting birds.

The Wildlife Trust

manage the power station's nature reserve area to the east of the site and will be putting up similar boxes there.

Aberthaw Power Station's environmental compliance engineer Amy Sherborne (pictured) was on hand to help build the boxes with Nigel Ajax-Lewis from the Wildlife Trust (centre).

WI enjoy a meal in the clink!

MEMBERS of Cadoxton (Barry) WI branch had a very enjoyable lunch at the Clink restaurant at Cardiff Prison!

The food is cooked and served by the prisoners, who explained that they have a very intense 12-week training course and are guaranteed work on release.

The menu, which rotates on a four-week basis, was interesting and beautifully presented. The staff were attentive and professional.

All of the members enjoyed the meal and hope to return some time soon.

Christina Whitchurch (President)

The Little Blue Deli

High Street's Menu for Mother's Day



STARTERS

Today's Soup – £2.95

Homemade soup served with crusty bread

Satay King Prawns – £3.95

Skewered King Prawns with satay sauce

Ardennes Pate – £3.95

Served with Melba Toast

Seared Scallops with Chorizo – £3.95

Crispy Crumbed Mushrooms – £2.95

Served with a garlic mayo dip

Baked Brie – £3.95

Served with crusty bread and cranberry sauce

MAIN COURSES

Beef Wellington – £12.95

Served with traditional roast vegetables

Roasted Duck with in red currant – £12.95

Served with potato gratin and seasonal vegetables

Roast Beef – £9.95

Served with traditional roast vegetables and Yorkshire pudding

Roast Lamb in honey and rosemary – £10.95

Served with traditional roast vegetables

Tuscan Linguine – £9.95

Linguine in a rich tomato sauce with basil, mozzarella, black olives, tomato

Wild mushroom cottage pie – £9.95

Served with seasonal vegetables

Dover Sole with lemon and tarragon butter – £11.95

Served with balsamic glazed mediterranean vegetables

Sicilian Feast – £14.95

King Prawns and mussels with a lemon garlic butter, scallops wrapped in prosciutto, skewered chicken, pasta with pine nuts and basil and glazed vegetables

DESSERTS

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4 Mother's Day options at the Little Blue Deli

Thompson Street is offering our traditional home style Sunday roast from 12 til 3pm, we have Lamb, Pork, Beef and Turkey all at £6

Home Delivery – have Sunday Lunch delivered to you from 12 til 5pm.

Roasts from Thompson Street delivered to your home - £6.00 (£6.50 lamb) plus £1 delivery

High Street has a broader Menu for Mother's Day from 12 til 5

High Street is offering a Tapas Feast on Sunday Evening from 6 til 10pm
3 tapas for £9.95
5 tapas £15.95



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ROMILLY BOYS' SCHOOL FORMER PUPILS LOOK FORWARD TO REUNION



ABOVE: This photograph was probably taken during the mid-sixties, but the official date is unknown.



ABOVE: One of the last pictures taken at the school, the year, 1966.

NOSTALGIC childhood memories dating back to the 1960s and even earlier will be the order of the day when the 'Romilly Old Boys Reunion' takes place in just over two weeks.

One of the organisers, Alan Kingdon, told The GEM that a gathering of old pupils and staff in 2002 had been very successful and that this year's was eagerly anticipated too.

"In 2002, there were 150 people and so far this year 100 people have booked, and we expect more to get in touch and come."

"There is a lovely camaraderie when you get the chance to meet up after so many years."

The reunion takes place at Cadoxton Conservative Club, Weston Square, on Friday, March 22, at 7pm, and it will be exactly 11 years to the day since the last one, which was at the same venue.

Former teacher Brian Luxton explained that within a few years of its opening, Romilly Boys' School had made its mark in the town.

"The school opened in 1906 and Mr R T Evans was the first headmaster, until 1925.

"It was on the slopes of a hill facing the Bristol Channel, providing splendid views over the town, Barry Island and the coasts of Somerset and Devon.

"It opened with a large central hall, which was a progressive educational planning idea at the time, and the school rapidly established a good reputation in the town."

The school came to national prominence before the First World War.

Mr Luxton said: "The Romilly School Choir, under the baton of W M Williams, father of Grace Williams the composer, won world-wide renown.

"In 1910, the choir kept an audience of 12,000 spellbound to win first prize at the Colwyn Bay National Eisteddfod.

"It went on to successfully tour the United States, Canada and Belgium and was invited to sing before President Woodrow Wilson in the White House, where each boy

received a five dollar bill from the President!

"The school has educated generations of Barrians who have gone on to play prominent roles in the life of Barry, Wales, and the wider world.

"In 1966, the school ceased to be when it was incorporated into the new Barry Boys' Comprehensive School,

and today it forms part of Romilly Primary School."

Tickets for the reunion are £5 to include a chicken and chip supper. For more information on the event, Alan Kingdon can be contacted on 01446 732203.

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Do you remember 'The Albatross'?

IN the early 1950s, the 6th Barry (All Saints) Sea Scout Troop, had a motor torpedo boat, named **Guardship ALBATROSS**, moored in the Old Harbour, which was used as their headquarters.

An 80th anniversary reunion is being planned on September 21 to meet up and reminisce about the great times they had in the Scouts.

Tony Hill is particularly interested in contacting all ex-members of the 1950s to let them know about the get-together. If you were an ex-Scout, or know how he can contact an old boy, he would be delighted to hear from you.

He can be contacted by email on tonyhill@btinternet.com or telephone 01446713110.

The reunion is, of course, inviting all ex 6th Barry Sea Scouts, Cubs,

Venture Scouts and Explorers, and the event will be held at the St Nicholas Scout Hall. The immaculate headquarters is soon to be renamed **SEAHAWK** after the Sail Training Schooner in which the group cruised the Bristol Channel in for over 20 years.

Anyone with contact information about ex members is requested to contact Tony or e-mail philip_walters@ntl-world.com.

Any old Scouts or others wishing to find out more about the **Albatross**, or the rich history of the 6th Barry group, can visit the website www.6thbarry.org where there is a very good record of the group's camps, expeditions, HQs, boating and many names of old scouts from 1933 when the group was re-initiated after the Great War.

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Penarth Computer Club News – the Apple Mac

OCCASIONALLY, one comes across a kindred spirit who responds well to a challenge – we offered one to Terry, and he came up trumps at very short notice.

As a club, we want to broaden our horizons now that Apple computers will drive

Microsoft's Windows -8 operating system. Microsoft has designed Windows -8 to look and feel the same on a desktop, Laptop, Notebook, Tablet and smart-phone.

Any of these pieces of kit can come complete with a touchscreen. Such a screen responds to finger-taps or strokes making a mouse optional.

Wally has already transferred his preference to an Apple computer and agreed to demonstrate it at our meeting.

Just 24 hours before the scheduled start he reported a vital piece of kit had not arrived and that in any event he would not be well enough to come.

Terry is an Apple Mac user and we have been in touch from time to time, but as the club has not dealt with Apple computers he is not a member.

As a long shot, he was

contacted by email late into the evening. On the day of the meeting he located and bought the required connecting cable and was able to set up our projector at home to ensure the system worked. It did and he was able to save the day.

At the meeting, he introduced us to his computer and talked through the things he did with it and responded to the many questions thrown at him.

He showed how the Microsoft applications such as Word and Excel looked pretty much the same and each was used in the usual way.

He talked about how the computer is operated in the same basic way, but (being an Apple machine) was easier to use.

He confirmed comments that we have heard from other Apple Mac users that 'everything just works'.

The Apple Mac computer is the machine preferred by designers for that reason. The fundamental use of the computer is just the same, but everything is just naturally easier to do because of the way its design recognises the way people naturally want to do things.

The expression used to describe this effect is that the use is more

'intuitive' as the things you need to do are the things that you expect to be required to do.

The reason everyone doesn't use this better machine is that it is considerably more expensive than an ordinary PC. Apple's company policy of producing its own hardware and software means it is able to retain tight control over quality and design.

Terry is a busy chap and works his computer

quite hard. Please note that he is one of the few people I know who keep their files backed up in a location remote from home.

The next meeting is on March 12 at All Saints Lesser Hall, Victoria Square, Penarth 7.30 pm. Topic to be advised. We expect be looking at Windows 8 again. Check on our website at penarthcomputerclub.co.uk.

Howard Desmond

NEWS FROM SULLY U3A

THE speaker at Sully U3A's February meeting was Sarah Renwick, a practitioner of oriental medicine, who has travelled the world for healing treatments to bring pain relief and balance to people's lives.

She has learnt these arts first-hand from indigenous oriental specialists and has over 26 years' experience in the field of oriental diagnosis and medicine.

She talked about the practice of Japanese, Korean, Chinese, Tibetan and Indian medicine and explained how acupuncture, massage,

cupping and herbs are used.

There were many questions from the audience, which Sarah answered with the aid of models and by demonstrating the various instruments she uses, including acupuncture needles. She was thanked for a most interesting talk by Gill Mathias, the chairman.

Sully U3A meets at The Old School, South Road on the second Thursday of the month.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, March 14 at 2pm, when the speakers will be Peter and Rosemary Cook, whose talk is entitled 'An Italian Journey'. New members are welcome.



Jayne Rivers, Martin Rivers, Suzanne King

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Patriotic flavour at golf club breakfast

President John Shapland and wife Janice, with guest speaker Phil Allen, Peter Battle organising the raffle, and secretary Phil Hunt, with wife Judith.



MEMBERS of Barry Rotary Club and their guests celebrated St David's Day in style with a St David's Day breakfast in St Andrew's Golf Club, Barry, on Friday, March 1.

Members and guests arrived to a dining room resplendent in Welsh colours with daffodils on every table.

President John Shapland welcomed everyone.

PLAID SURGERY

RESIDENTS are invited to attend a Barry advice surgery on March 9 to discuss council issues or concerns.

Couns Dr Ian Johnson, Steffan Wiliam, Nic and Shirley Hodges will be joined by the Barry Plaid Cymru team at the Community Room, County Library, Kings Square, Barry, from 11am until 12 midday. No appointments necessary.

especially guest speaker Mr Phil Allen, manager of Aberthaw Power Station, thanking them all for their support so early in the morning!

Rotarian Meirion Evans then said grace in Welsh and English. After a most appetising, full cooked Welsh breakfast prepared by St Andrew's Golf Club chef Gareth and his staff, president John introduced guest speaker Phil Allen, who spoke at length about Aberthaw Power Station and the power generation business in Britain.

Rotarian Peter Battle gave a vote of thanks on behalf of Barry Rotarians and guests and John Shapland proposed the final toast to the Rotary movement, locally, nationally and internationally.

Rotary has 1.2million members worldwide who form a global network of business, professional and community volunteers.

The Rotary Club of Barry meets weekly in the Mount Sorrel Hotel on Thursdays (6pm for 6.30pm).

For further information, contact membership chairman Peter Battle on 01446 710204. **JO**

Local school wins pupil participation kitemark

PALMERSTON Primary School, Barry, has been awarded a pupil participation Kitemark which focuses on the 'National Children and Young People's Participation Standards'.

The team of four young inspectors, ranging from 14 to 18 years old, analysed the self-assessment and created an action plan to inspect Palmerston Primary over two half days.

Some of the methods they used were lesson observations, interviews with the school council, completion of sticker-books with the children, general discussions, interviewing of staff, as well as looking at paper based evidence.

They produced a detailed report looking at areas of good practice and also areas for improvement. This was sent to the participation unit in order for the Kitemark to be awarded.

Overall, Palmerston Primary School passed the criteria for the participation Kitemark and was awarded the certificate in a school assembly by Peter Williams, the local Young Inspectors' co-ordinator.



LEFT: Peter Williams with the Palmerston pupils.

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Barry Men's Forum hears macabre tales from Phil

THE speaker at the Barry Men's Forum meeting last week, was Phil Carradice, the well-known story teller who has often appeared on the One Show and radio.

After university, he took a job teaching history in a 'Secure Unit' for adolescents. With only five pupils, all detained for very serious crimes, he knew that to get their attention he had to make the subject interesting.

He told of the macabre assassination of King Edward II, and how the Duke of Monmouth complained

at his execution, after losing the battle at Sedgemoor, that the axe did not appear very sharp – which proved true, as it took six blows to behead him.

He recounted reputed final words of famous people, like Palmerston the Prime Minister, on his death bed to his physician – "Die, Doctor? That's the very last thing I shall do."

And William Palmer, on stepping onto the gallows commenting "Are you sure it's safe?"

Amusing epitaphs he had come across included:

Under this pile of stones,

Lies all that's left of Sally Jones,

Name was Briggs, it was not Jones,

But Jones was used to rhyme with stones.

He also gave accounts of the origins of strange sayings like 'You're name is Mud,' and 'Swinging the lead'.

He concluded his talk with advice, especially to present day politicians, to study and learn from history, and not to make the mistakes which history shows have been repeated many times over the years, and continue to be repeated today.

New members are very welcome to the Barry Men's Forum which meet at Windsor Road Church Hall every Thursday morning at

10.15am. On Thursday, March 14, the speaker will be Brian Davies whose talk is entitled 'Wales a Millennium Ago'. For further information, contact Peter Westcott on 02920 594881.

PMW

Have you
spotted
our pet
chicken?



LAST week our pet garden chicken was stolen from the Colcot/Gibbonsdown area of Barry. It is a brown Warran type of chicken and is very friendly.

If anyone has any information on her whereabouts, please telephone 01446 736287 and leave a message, or contact your Police Support Officer. (Name and address supplied).

Barry is not short of ability

OVER the past few weeks, we have been reading that Barry doesn't have the people of ability who made such great changes in the past, and also that development at the Waterfront has been delayed.

Nothing could be further from the truth. The Methodist and URC churches have come together to form the Barry Uniting Church and, with the backing of ABP and the Welsh Government, we are building a community garden on the land between the Focus store and the surgery.

Fencing will be in place this month and raised beds set out. This will be followed by a temporary building,

which can be used by all the community.

We will landscape the ground to the south of the site and eventually build permanent premises, which will become the Barry Waterfront Centre.

If anyone is interested in learning more or would like to be involved, you are invited to a coffee morning in our Windsor Road church (opposite the Mount Sorrel) from 10 – 12noon on Saturday March 16.

Our first work session at site will be on Saturday, March 23, at 10am and we will be gearing up to take part in National Gardening Week between April 15 – 21.

Bob Connell
(Treasurer, Barry Waterfront Centre)

*The Secret Garden
of Beauty*

*The Secret Garden of Beauty
celebrates St David's Day in style!*



The Award Winning Secret Garden of Beauty chose to celebrate their Re-Launch on this very special day. The salon is growing by popular demand and will now have FIVE treatment rooms and a dedicated relaxation area.

We've had a sneaky peak at the refurbishment and it looks absolutely gorgeous! The salon has stayed true to its 'Secret Garden' theme with each treatment room beautifully designed with a variety of flowers Bluebell, Rose, Sunflower and Lily. A 'Boutique Retreat' Room with a quiet relaxation space attached, where you can sit and enjoy a gorgeous hot chocolate. There is also a dedicated 'Celebrity Brow Bar' specialising in Threading and a Manicure & Pedicure Clinic using Zoya and Gelish.

Aldene, who opened 2006, has worked in the industry for 25 years, both as a senior lecturer and curriculum manager in Surrey and as an Operations Director for the largest spa organisation in Bermuda, responsible for one of the Top 10 Spas in the world! The team of experienced, professional Therapists and Specialists offer many Signature Treatments including Bamboo, Ayurvedic and Mama Mio mother-to-be Massages. The Salon is also an Expert Status Dermalogica Skin Care Centre, the advanced training means the certified therapists at The Secret Garden are amongst the highest-trained and recognised Dermalogica skin therapists in the world!

The Secret Garden is now open 7 DAYS, 9am until 8pm Monday to Friday and Saturday and Sunday 9am until 7pm.

New Website Launch 1st April www.secretgardenofbeauty.co.uk.

25 Tynwydd Road, Barry, CF62 8HB

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QUESTIONS STILL TO BE ANSWERED AS PRIMARY SCHOOLS ARE REPRIEVED

THE cabinet of the Vale Council met on Monday (March 4) and formally dropped plans to close three schools in the Vale – voting unanimously not to proceed.

The proposals, to close Llanfarcfan, Llanfair and Oak Field, were in a report prepared for the council's education scrutiny committee, and that report has still to see the light of day.

What was in the public domain was a summary prepared for the cabinet meeting, giving the thinking behind the proposals.

For Llanfarcfan and Llanfair, where parents were angry and puzzled as to why two high performing schools had been singled out, there was an answer.

The report said that these were the two schools in the Vale with the lowest numbers of children attending from

by PHILIP IRWIN

within the catchment area, and there were low numbers of births forecast for future years.

The summary added: "Most pupils attending the schools travel from outside the catchment areas and in both cases, capital investment is required in future years to address the poor condition of the buildings."

It is fair to say that many of the pupils from outside the catchment area are attracted by the two schools' 'feeder school' status – and the fact that both schools may have that removed was not on the agenda at the cabinet meeting.

In the end, the cabinet recognised the strong academic record of the schools and their importance to their communities, and turned the proposal down.

In what turned out to be uncannily prescient,

the cabinet was told "MoD plans for St Athan are unknown, but any additional personnel may increase demand for school places in the rural Vale".

The following day, it was announced that 600 soldiers from the Royal Signals Regiment (and their families) are on their way to St Athan.

Oak Field School was under threat for different reasons. The cabinet was told that: "Following an Estyn inspection, Oak Field School is currently subject to special measures and, with capacity for a total of 210 pupils, currently has 85 on roll."

"The school has worked very hard to make improvements following the inspection and has addressed many of the inspectors' recommendations, but overall there still remains more work to be done."

However, the advice accepted by the cabinet, once again stressing its importance to the local community, was "...to continue to work with the governing body to further improve the school and to secure its future success at the heart of the local community."

A new draft school reorganisation programme will be presented



The pupils of Llanfair Primary School with their protest banners.

at a future meeting of cabinet. This report will also set out proposals for the cabinet's consideration and, if agreed, these will be the subject of public consultation.

Despite the fact that the cabinet's decision had been heavily trailed beforehand, parents from the threatened schools marched through Barry town and protested outside the Civic Offices before attending the cabinet meeting to witness the vote.

Pupils had made the banners and had also sent letters and pictures to the cabinet members and asked family and friends to sign petitions.

A parent reported that the Vale Council Leader, Coun Neil Moore, said at the meeting that he had read the letters and seen the pictures from the children, and was saddened

that they had been upset by this.

The headteacher of Llanfair Primary, Diane Normansell, said: "As a school at the heart of our community, we are absolutely delighted with this outcome following a few extremely harrowing weeks of shock, disbelief, doubt and uncertainty."

"I am personally very grateful to all of our supporters who have worked so hard to ensure that Llanfair Primary School has the secure future which our pupils, teaching staff and governors deserve."

A row is brewing over whether the action tackling surplus places was necessary.

Last week, Leighton Andrews, Minister for Education and Skills, responded in The Senedd to a question from the Leader of the Welsh

Conservatives, Andrew RT Davies, where he denied that a 10 per cent figure was a target.

His answer implied that his main concern was getting councils with a 20 per cent surplus to get down to 15 per cent, a figure already achieved by the Vale Council. His answer suggested that 10 per cent was a longer term target.

Vale MP Alun Cairns said: "During a time which was very distressing and stressful for parents, pupils, teachers and governors of the primary schools being considered for closure by the Vale Council, it is hard to understand why the council would state that there is a formal 10 per cent target which could force their closure."

The summary report considered by the cabinet spelt out the position in

the Vale.

It said: "In September 2012 there was an overall surplus of 14.74 per cent in the primary sector and 9.28 per cent in the secondary sector."

"Pupil number forecasts for 2017, assuming that no action is taken, project surplus places in the primary sector falling to 10.17 per cent but secondary school surplus places increasing to 13.15 per cent, giving an overall figure of 11.52 per cent."

However, the report goes on to say that the

number of surplus places in secondary schools will be reduced by the reorganisation of St Cyres Comprehensive School onto a single site, and as a result of the proposed rebuilding of Llantwit Major Comprehensive School, which is currently planned for completion in 2017.

The GEM asked the Vale Council to comment on the figures given by Leighton Andrews but, at the time of going to press, no response had been received.

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Welsh Government asks for views on tackling fly grazing

THE Welsh Government is asking people in south Wales to have their say on the vexed issue of fly grazing.

The Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Alun Davies, has launched an eight-week public consultation on finding a long-term solution to fly grazing and abandonment of horses in Wales.

The GEM has reported on many occasions when large numbers of horses have been abandoned in

publicly owned spaces, on common land and on private land.

The majority of fly grazing incidents have occurred in the Vale, Bridgend and Cardiff.

Alun Davies said "The Welsh Government vision is for a fly grazing free Wales.

"Fly grazing often impacts on public safety, on communities (public and privately owned land), the agricultural industry, the welfare of the animals concerned, as well as placing financial burdens on both individuals and the tax payer.

"Partnership working between enforcement agencies and welfare organisations has meant that this issue has been tackled through a co-ordinated approach.

"The consultation seeks to build on this by looking at the current legislative framework, identifying whether there are gaps and what, if anything, the Welsh Government may do to provide a solution."

He continued: "With no one single piece of legis-

lation to address the issue, the consultation seeks views on how the Welsh Government might deliver measures to provide uniformity of standards across Wales, a legal framework enabling enforcement authorities to effectively deter large scale incidents of fly grazing or abandonment of horses and ponies."

He added that feedback will be used to help shape the next phase in tackling fly grazing. It will help the Welsh Government develop the most appropriate actions to achieve the vision of a fly grazing free Wales.

Consultation documents can be found at: <http://wales.gov.uk/consultations/environment-and-country-side/fly-grazing-consultation/?lang=en>

Incidents of fly grazing and any associated anti social behaviour can be reported to Crime Stoppers on 0800 555111 or to the police via the 101 number or via email to the Welsh Government at equinepolicy@wales.gsi.gov.uk.

TV LICENCE EVADERS ARE CAUGHT OUT

TV Licensing has revealed that more than 19,400 people were caught watching TV without a licence in Wales during 2012, including 600 in Barry, 880 in Bridgend, and 240 in Maesteg.

The average evasion rate remains at a low of just over five per cent, meaning almost 95 per cent of homes are correctly licensed, Warren Carr, TV Licensing spokesman said. "The data shows evasion remains at historically low levels of approximately five per cent, with the overwhelming majority of people ensuring they are correctly licensed. In order to be fair to the law-abiding majority who do pay for their licence, we'll continue to pursue the small minority of people who do not pay."

"We do understand some people may find it difficult to pay in one go, which is why we offer numerous ways to spread the cost. If people decide to watch TV without being properly licensed, they risk prosecution and a fine of up to £1,000."

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Group aims to bring new tourists to Vale



Jane Hutt AM with Mandy Davies of Vale Marketing Group.

THE Vale Marketing Group attracted Vale tourism businesses to Cottrell Park last week for workshops and discussions on branding and 'slow tourism' - a more in depth holiday experience.

It was joined by the Vale AM to learn more about supporting local tourism.

Coed Hills wins Tidy Wales award

WINNER of Tidy Wales biodiversity improvement award, sponsored by John Lewis, was the Coed Hills Forest Garden Project in the Vale.

It planted two acres of land, previously used for silage, as a garden, alongside an extensive water system including three

ponds.

"The aim of the Forest Garden, run entirely by volunteers, is to educate people about sustainable food production and the importance of biodiversity," said a spokesperson for Keep Wales Tidy.

The Urban Regeneration Award, sponsored by Vale Hotel and Spa Resort, went to Vetch Veg Community Garden at the former home of Swansea City FC.

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CAPITAL CITY'S HELP FOR VALE FOOD BANK



Left to right: Karen Jones, Karen Goddard and Rhiannon Jones from the branch, and June Price and Stephen Matheson from the Food Bank.

STAFF at a building society are throwing their support behind Vale Food Bank, with a £750 donation for supplies, as well as becoming a collection point for food donations.

The charity was recommended for the donation by June Price who worked for Yorkshire Building Society for more than 35 years and now spends some of her leisure time volunteering at the Food Bank.

Vale Food Bank provides emergency food and other essential items to people in crisis in the community.

With the donation from Yorkshire Building Society Charitable Foundation, the charity

was able to buy hundreds of items to make up the parcels handed out to those in need.

The team at the branch on The Hayes in Cardiff also installed a collection box so the public can pop in and make donations for Vale Food Bank and Cardiff Food Bank.

The team are looking for donations of non perishable food items to pass on to the charity.

"We heard first hand from June about the wonderful work the food bank is doing and we wanted to try and help," said Karen Goddard, the assistant branch manager.

"So many people are struggling these days, and charities such as Vale Food Bank are vitally important in the support and

help they give.

"I hope members of the public when doing their shopping might spare a thought for those struggling and help us collect as many items as possible."

June Price, said: "I've enjoyed working for the society for many years and I now enjoy trying to make a difference with Vale Food Bank. I'm so pleased I could bring the two together.

"The team at the branch have been very supportive in helping organise this donation and also helping further by making their branch into a food collection point."

AM's support for charity appeal

A GROUP of Marie Curie nurses, community fundraisers and the charity's chief executive, Dr Jane Collins, gathered on Tuesday (February 26) at the Senedd, Cardiff Bay, to mark the launch of their Great Daffodil Appeal.

Also present was Vale AM Jane Huft who said:

"Marie Curie Cancer Care offers considerable support to those affected by terminal illness across the whole of Wales, so I am hugely proud to support them during this year's Great Daffodil Appeal.

I would encourage anyone to donate and wear their daffodil pin this March – the donation given will make an enormous difference to a number of terminally ill patients in need of expert care."

Sully artist honoured by French invitation

ARTIST Nick John Rees, who is based in Sully, was recently invited by the Mayor and town council of a French town, Lanmerin, to the official unveiling of a painting he was commissioned to complete, marking the renovation of a local historic chapel dedicated to St Je  r  me.

"The civic reception was a very well-attended and enjoyable event where champagne flowed and the excellent food was most appreciated by both townsfolk and local dignitaries," he reported.

Lanmerin was originally founded by a Welshman and the area retains many links with Wales, including the nearby town St Pol de Leon which is twinned with Penarth.

From his studio in Sully, Nick paints mainly seascapes and landscapes in acrylics, oils and water-colour.

He enjoys painting along the south, west and north coasts of Wales as well as Devon and Cornwall.

He also spends a considerable amount of time in Brittany, where he has found an appreciative market for his paintings. His work very much focuses upon the light, reflections and weather conditions within a scene, and is held in private collections in places as far afield as Australia, France, Germany, America and New Zealand.

This year Nick will be not only exhibiting his work in south Wales but he also has two exhibitions of his paintings in France.

Further details of his work can be found at www.nickjohnrees.yolasite.com

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ADVENTURE TRAINING ON SUGAR LOAF MOUNTAIN

RIGHT: The cadets had an exciting day of training to get them ready for their DOE expeditions set for this Easter.



AIR Cadets from 372 (Barry) Squadron, travelled to Sugar Loaf mountain (near Abergavenny) for a day of exciting and challenging adventure training.

This was the second training walk of the year, preparing the cadets for their forthcoming Duke of Edinburgh expeditions at Easter.

The aim of the walk was to train the cadets to a competent degree of navigation, team building, first aid, and understanding the country code.

The walk itself was of moderate difficulty, eight kilometers in distance, a short distance to stop and concentrate on navigational skills.

The route started at a viewpoint overlooking Abergavenny, with a

frosty chill to keep the cadets awake!

A nicely paced walk to the top of Sugar Loaf was ideal to get some key features of navigation into the day's training. The group worked very well, enjoying the frost ridden views of the valley below.

On the return route to the viewpoint, the cadets were faced with a first aid scenario. Should this happen on their expedition they will know exactly what to do, thanks to their training on the hill.

The cadets who took part were: Rachel Carbis, Jake Paterson, Georgina and Ellie Poulakis, Jamie-Leigh Bird, Rhondda Gullely, Nathan David, Steph Jones, Pippa and Jack Cowles, Alex Spragg, and Jason Matthew Horton.

Rigorous training on the squadron covers a number of skills, from teambuilding, leader-

ship to mountain craft, camp craft, safety training and navigation before going on the hills.

Squadron training then complements and encourages cadets to explore and appreciate the 'great outdoors'; improve confidence and fitness, learn new skills and, ultimately, provide enjoyment mixed with excitement.

As well as adventure training, the cadets also enjoy flying, gliding, shooting, sports, overseas trips, leadership and citizenship training in a full and action packed training programme.

If you have a spirit for adventure, 372 Squadron has vacancies for boys and girls between 13-18 years old. The Squadron parade on Mondays and Wednesdays 7pm-9.30pm behind Adams Funeral Parlour (by the Memorial Hall). Contact on 01446 747734, or email oc.372@aircadets.org for more information.

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STUDENTS TAKE CHEQUERED FLAG AT F1 IN SCHOOLS REGIONAL FINALS

A TEAM of students from Barry Comprehensive celebrated winning through to the F1 in Schools UK national finals, after an intense and hard-fought south Wales regional final which took place at the Swansea Waterfront Museum.

This Formula One-inspired educational challenge has captured the imagination of students up and down the country; and with a place on the grid at the F1 in Schools World Finals 2013 to be held in Austin, Texas for the UK National Champions, every team put in hundreds of hours of work in their pursuit of the prize.

"BCS Racing", the team from Barry Comprehensive School, with team members Bradley Cox, manufacturing engineer; Gareth Hurman, design engineer; Morgan Osborne, graphic designer; Mitchell Thorngate, resources manager and Jacob Vivian, manufacturing engineer, proved that hard work pays off as they collected the first place F1 Class trophy, as well as the fastest F1 car award, with the team's car racing down the track in a time of 1.428 seconds.

Gareth said of the team's success: "It's been pretty amazing, I didn't think we would win it, so it feels good, it hasn't sunk in yet that we will be going to London for the national finals."

"You learn so much doing this challenge, particularly with the teamwork, getting together a group of people and working well as a team."

BCS Racing were one of three teams who raced to victory at the regional final and will be

representing their school at the F1 in Schools UK national finals at the Big Bang Fair, ExCel, London on March 15-16.

Joining them in London will be Impact from Maesteg Comprehensive School, and 'Unknown' from Pen Y Dre High School, Merthyr Tydfil. In the Bloodhound Class, the winning team was Team Burn from Amman Valley School, Ammanford, and they will compete in the Bloodhound Class National Finals on March 14 at the Big Bang Fair.

F1 in Schools challenges students to create their own Formula One team which is commissioned to design, construct and race the fastest miniature Formula One car of the future; a 21cm long scale model built from a block of balsa wood and powered by a compressed air cylinder.

Each team of between three and six students creates a 'pit' display at the regional final and showcases their work in developing their race car, with a verbal and written presentation for the judges.

The teams then race their model cars on a specially designed 20 metre test track, with the cars covering the distance in just over one second.

In addition to representing their country at the world finals, the F1 in Schools UK Champions and runners up will receive tickets to the 2013 Formula 1 Grand Prix at Silverstone. The national champions will also win a Red Bull Racing F1 team factory tour and a TW steel watch for each team member.

Andrew Denford, founder and chairman, F1 in Schools, said:

"We're experiencing significant growth in the schools entering the challenge this season and the standards are extremely high."

"The students had to cope with the nerves of presenting to a panel of judges and the pressures of putting their models to the test against the best of the region. All the teams put up a great fight, with only a few points separating the top contenders for a place at the national finals."

He added: "The challenge not only tests the students in many key areas of educational study such as the STEM subjects, but gives them an opportunity to gain experience of many life skills which will be invaluable in their future careers."

Winners: First place F1 Class BCS Racing – Barry Comprehensive School, Barry; Runner up F1 Class Impact – Maesteg Comprehensive School; First place Bloodhound Class Team Burn – Amman Valley, Ammanford; Best Rookie Team – Unknown, Pen Y Dre High School, Merthyr Tydfil; Fastest Car F1 Class BCS Racing, 1.428 secs – Barry Comprehensive School; Fastest Car Bloodhound Class Team Burn, 0.739 secs – Amman Valley; Ammanford; Best Engineered Car Slipstream – St John's College, Cardiff; Team Identity Award – Athena Maesteg Comprehensive School, Bridgend; Innovative Thinking Award Team Edge – Bryn Celym Comprehensive School, Beddau; Team Sponsorship and Marketing Award – Impact Maesteg Comprehensive School, Bridgend; Judges Discretionary Award – Eclipse Ysgol Gyfun Ystalyfera, Llanelli.



ABOVE: F1 winners, Barry Comprehensive School



ABOVE: F1 runners-up, Maesteg Comprehensive School.

Combined transport pass idea given backing by AM



Mr Davies met with vice-chairman Mike Edwards (centre) and Peter Honeywell (left) of the Vale 50+ Strategy Forum. All three are pictured in Mr Davies's new office in Cowbridge.

THE leader of the Welsh Conservatives, Andrew RT Davies, AM, has met the Vale 50+ Strategy Forum to discuss the campaign for a local pilot scheme of combined bus and train passes for the elderly.

The forum has called for a pilot similar to those already established on the Cambrian Coast Railway, the Wrexham-Bidston Line, the Conwy Valley Line, and the Heart of Wales Line.

Mr Davies has pledged his support for

the introduction of a pilot that would improve transport links for the elderly in the Vale, particularly in areas where bus services are less frequent or comprehensive in coverage.

He said: "The Welsh Government has itself acknowledged the difficulties faced by older people in relation to transport, including the need for greater integration of services to address some of these problems."

"Given that similar pilot schemes are already in place in other parts of Wales we are keen to see it looked at here in the Vale."

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Dean said: "Having a living space built to your specification is a dream for many, and a reality for our clients. We ensure the whole experience is enjoyable

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NEWS FROM PENARTH AND DISTRICT RAMBLERS

Trekking through a landscape changed by industrial revolution

SEVENTEEN walkers, including their leader William, enjoyed the adventure of a train ride up to the Rhondda Fawr valley, and when the distinctive shape of the Bwlch came into view high above frosted hillsides, the group knew they were close to Treherbert – which was so-named in 1855 after an ancestor of the Marquess of Bute.

The whole of this rural area, containing only a few farms, changed rapidly after the Industrial Revolution when coal mines were sunk there. Nowadays, the only indication of that era are the continuous rows of neat stone terraced houses, which make it difficult to reason where one village begins or another ends.

Climbing steeply out of Tredegar with stunning views of the carved shapes of the surrounding hills bathed in bright sunshine, they reached Mynydd Tynewydd,

tramping almost hidden pathways between tall conifers where deep ruts containing surface water held frog spawn.

Eventually descending through a pretty clearing and crossing the Afon Rhondda Fach, they stopped to enjoy lunch.

Joining part of the Coed Morgannwg Way, they crossed open moorland before grassy pathways high on the cliff gave them an overview of the Dare Valley Country Park, where work began in 1971 to remove coal tips after the four collieries that afforded employment in the area were closed.

Further on, they passed a Briars Bridleway Trail way-marker with a horseshoe symbol indicating that horses can now ride through Rhondda Cynon Taff on a 14-mile trail over mainly permissive paths, shared with walkers and mountain bikers. It stretches from the Dare Valley Country Park to the Barry Sidings in Pontypriid and accommodation for horses and riders has been provided at Porth and Aberdare.

Aberdare also grew rapidly because of the

abundance of coal and iron ore in the area, coking coal fed the iron-works and in 1836 pits were sunk in haste to exploit steam coal used to power steam locomotives, and by 1851 Welsh steam coal powered the ships of the Royal Navy.

Making their way across the River Cynon to the railway station at the end of the linear walk it was comforting to know they could relax on the return train journey.

On March 9, meet at 9am at Cogan Leisure Centre for an eight-mile moderate/hard walk to Parc Penallta and

Mynydd Eglwysilan; contact Geraint on 029 2051 5278.

On March 10, meet at 9.30am at the Barry Waterfront for a five-mile moderate walk from Llantwit Major to Tresilian Bay; contact Jan/John on 01446 418514.

On March 12, the mid-week walk will leave Cogan at 9.30am for an 11-mile moderate walk in the Usk Valley; contact William on 01446 747239.

Membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 02920 255102.

Joy Strangward

Big dip for Marie Curie

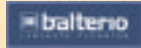
ON Sunday, June 2, hundreds of people will try to break the world record for the largest skinny dip on one beach, to raise funds for the Marie Curie charity.

A spokesperson said: "Taking place at a secret location in the Gower area, the exact venue will be released to skinny dippers once they have registered. Every £20 raised will provide one hour of nursing care for someone when they need it most."

To be a part of the big dip in south Wales and possibly make it into the record books, register online at www.mariecurie.org.uk/adrenaline, call 0845 052 4184 or email: waleswestevents@mariecurie.org.uk.



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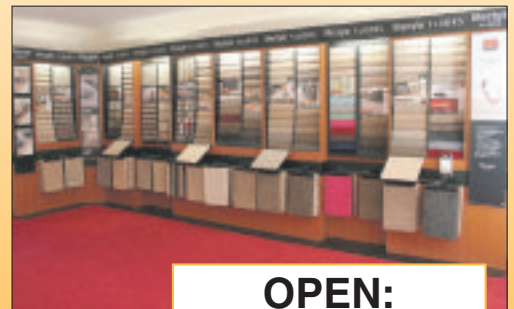
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You may prefer to save on a monthly basis – remember the days when your 'savings collector' called at the door to collect a few pounds each week?

For those who prefer

to save this way, ISAs are also very attractive, due to their tax benefits.

As with all savings and investments, you need to be sure that you've chosen the right deal for your circumstances, and understood the 'small print' of the myriad options available.

CBK's financial advisors can provide ISA advice and help you to make the most of your money. Email isa@cbkwales.co.uk or call us on 0300 303 8525.

Next month, we look at a topic close to many of our hearts – and purses – mortgages

CBK clear and concise financial advice

84 High Street, Barry CF62 7DX

Telephone: 0300 303 8525

www.cbkwales.co.uk

Email: info@cbkwales.co.uk

CBK & CBK Wales are trading styles of CBK (Swansea) Ltd which is an appointed representative of Tenet Connect Services Ltd which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority.

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for a free first appointment

E-Mail:

j.lloyd@colinjonessolicitors.co.uk

Recycling more at household waste recycling centres

THE Vale has two household waste recycling centres – located at the Atlantic Trading Estate, Barry, and on the Llandow Industrial Estate.

The Vale of Glamorgan Council's cabinet member for the

environment and visible services, Coun Rob Curtis, said:

"Summertime opening at our recycling sites begins on Sunday, March 31, meaning Barry is open from 8am-6pm and Llandow from 10am-5pm. The sites close only for Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day, making it easier for residents to divert even more

material from landfill."

Vale recycling crew member Adam Gescheiner is keen to show how easy it is for Vale residents to recycle at recycling centres. With materials such as garden waste, metals, hard plastics, textiles, electrical items, batteries and cooking/car oil, you can certainly do your bit.

What's in your bin?

Tel: 01446 700111 Email: visible@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

Our Recycling Team put the **SPOTLIGHT ON**

Recycling even more items at the Vale's Household Recycling Centres...

www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/recycle




In Business Update

GEM ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

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Why not call us to book a gift voucher and let Mum choose her day for us to pop along and sparkle her oven!

Ethical eating from Riverford

VEGBOXES are all about enjoying food at its seasonal best – the way nature intended it.

From Riverford, you can have different boxes each week, pause your orders, or make up your own box.

You can add extra items on as well from our extensive range of ethically farmed organic meat, fruit, dairy, eggs.

There are lots of other lovely treats too: wine,

beer, chocolate, cheese and homemade pies too!

We provide recipe cards and local cookery workshops and a host of other ideas to help you get the most from the box. We reward loyalty too – look forward to regular anniversary surprise treats.

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Bond actor opens his martial arts academy

THE name's **Wong – Dave Wong**, but not only has Dave featured in a James Bond film, he is also known as a top grade martial arts expert.

Dave, from Bridgend, is passing on his skills at the newly-opened Sen Martial Arts Academy in Talbot Green.

Dave explained: "I've been very fortunate in life to pick up the key skills to perform at the highest standard. This

new gym is a way of giving something back to the community and helping others to follow in my footsteps. The academy is equipped with all the latest training gear and I have a wealth of experience to pass on to students."

Dave appeared in the latest record-breaking Bond film Skyfall and was billed as 'the Shaghai art collector'.

For more information on Dave's academy, please call either 01443 222021 or 07807 048 916.

'Bond' Action Man Dave Wong brings his unique skills back to Wales

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Give furniture a facelift...

GREAT news for anyone thinking of giving their kitchen cabinets a facelift ready for spring in an affordable way... specialist painter, Sara Llewellyn, will come along and give a free estimate for any furniture painting task.

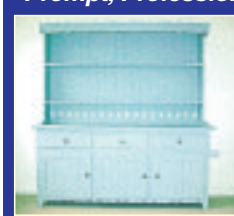
Her prompt, professional service transforms tired-looking furniture into something which looks new and fresh.

Using oil-based paints which are tough and durable, a practical decorative solution awaits.

Customers are given an opportunity to look through her portfolio of past projects, and an array of colour charts and advice is made available to suit all your needs.

Please call 01446 796142 or 07887651598.

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Helping those with eating disorders

Approximately 1.6 million people suffer from eating disorders in the UK.

Disorders like anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa and binge eating can be an outlet for emotions such as anger, anxiety, depression and low self-esteem, often caused by a general inability to cope, psychological trauma, bereavement or difficult relationships. They can develop as coping mechanisms.

Cardiff Hypnotherapy Solutions helps clients reduce anxiety, restoring

perspective. Once under control, many of the troublesome symptoms can be alleviated, including unhelpful behaviours towards food.

Regaining control usually helps clients restore motivation, confidence and self-esteem and rediscover their healthy relationship with food.

For more details, see www.cardiffhypnotherapysolutions.com; or call Sue on 07795 964066.

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Barefoot Studio, Cowbridge
The Business Centre, Barry
www.cardiffhypnotherapysolutions.com

Author's new book on Bigfoot

SIGNED copies of *Nobody Loves a Bigfoot Like a Bigfoot Babe*, an adult comedy by Simon Okill, are now available at Nickleby's Bookstore, Llantwit Major and Cowbridge Bookshop.

Welsh author Simon Okill grew up in Barry and now lives in Llantwit Major, where he writes full time.

The book takes a wild trek through the forests of Big Beaver, where Duane has kept the Bigfoot a secret, until a female Bigfoot spoils everything. Can Duane protect his hairy friends from the FBI, the Sheriff and the crazy locals?

Fifteen five star ratings – voted 'Best British Fantasy Author' on Goodreads.

Simon Okill's debut novel.

Signed copies now available at: Local author Simon Okill

Nickleby's Bookstore, Llantwit Major and Cowbridge Bookshop

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www.amazon.co.uk/Nobody-Loves-Bigfoot-Like-ebook/dp/B00AAL9UB4
www.christophermatthewspub.com/nobody-loves-a-bigfoot




'RHOOSE PAYING PRICE FOR EARLIER PLANNING DECISIONS' – says local MP

A PUBLIC meeting took place in Rhoose last weekend (March 3) to highlight the issue of more housing being developed in the village.

A total of 350 new homes have been approved for land north of the railway line – and even more could be on the way, according to local people.

Many villagers believe the area has had a raw deal in recent years, with major housing developments, but little in the way of new amenities.

One of the residents who helped to organise the meeting, Richard Barnes, said the meeting was well-attended and had provided a lively forum for debate.

Mr Barnes said it had been good to see elected representatives, Alun Cairns MP, Andrew RT

Davies AM, Eluned Parrott AM and local councillors Phil Clarke and Jeff James, attend the event and provide information on current issues.

Mr Barnes said: "Although the meeting provided residents with background and some answers, it was disappointing to see that the current 350 houses and future 300 are going to be difficult to change, as this has been in the Vale Council planning for 10

by **TIM CHAPMAN**

IMPACT

to 15 years.

"Whilst these plans are only in outline or future planning, it will be a tough challenge to change the numbers and it appears that residents can only try to ensure the developers are managed at 'detailed planning' on providing infrastructure and financial bonds to avoid another Rhoose Point saga.

"The panel also highlighted a massive communication gap between planning, education, health and infrastructure when it comes to impacting communities such as Rhoose and granting permission for such developments.

"We feel that there is also a larger challenge out there, with Welsh Government and local councils to have a planning policy, like in England, where the communities have more control and consultation, because the current Welsh policy is clearly not working."

Mark Griffin, a local resident for 17 years, told The GEM he had been surprised how far back critical decisions on the community had been made.

"I attended the public meeting and was fairly surprised that the decision to build on the land north of the railway line was made back in 1996 with the launch of the UDP – and come hell or high water the development has always been unstoppable, despite many major complications with the site.

"Rhoose Point has had a massive impact on services. Some of these concerns were brought up including the obvious school problem and the drainage issues of Murlande Way and Rhoose Point developments.

"It seems that despite the environmental report stating the 'aquifer shouldn't be disturbed', they seem determined to

push ahead and get Rhoose into even more of a mess."

Mr Griffin said the village appeared to be facing up to 790 more houses.

"Each house will probably have an average of three people so adding around 2,000 people to the village.

"Currently, Rhoose has around 5,000 residents so we are effectively going to add around 40 per cent to the size of Rhoose."

He said if this happened Rhoose faces massive problems including basic ones such as whether the school could cope.

'PAYING PRICE'

Vale MP Alun Cairns said he understood residents' frustrations.

"Local residents rightly highlighted their opposition to the new developments in Rhoose.

"Sadly, the Welsh Government's Planning Inspector ruled that development could take place on the land north of the Railway line back in 1996 and we're paying the price now.

"It is wholly unfair that Rhoose is expanding at such a pace without appropriate growth in services such as school spaces, GP care and anti-flooding measures.

"In credit to both local councillors, they have made these points, but policy at both a local and Wales-wide level is against.

"We need to change this. The public meeting in Rhoose underlines the importance of the forthcoming LDP.

"I am determined to see changes and the Welsh Government need to back down on their 10,000 housing target for the Vale."

Regional Assembly Member, Andrew RT Davies, said the numbers at the meeting illustrated how concerned residents were.

"Many of these issues cannot be addressed without a radical overhaul of the planning system so that communities are put at the heart of decision making.

"It is also vital that infrastructure, from schools and doctors surgeries to public transport provision, is appropriately conceived for developments of this type and scale.

"I will continue to work with councillors and the local community and this is far from the end of our fight to ensure that the residents' views are heard loud and clear".

Concerned residents say they plan to hold a 'review meeting' in another six months.

What's on – in brief

Heritage group

THE popular Glamorgan Wartime Heritage Centre at Barry Tourist Railway Station at Barry Island will be holding a Militaria Fair and open day this Sunday (March 10).

Militaria and reproduction vintage items will be on sale at the 'military bazaar', and tables are still available for a small fee.

Living historians will be taking the station back to 1940s Barry and the First World War trench experience will also be brought to life, showing visitors what life would have been like on the battlefields of France.

Veteran WAAF Officer, Eileen Younghusband, who served from 1940 to the end of the Second World War, will be signing her latest book 'One Woman's War' which will be on sale.

A spokesman said: "We'd also very much like to meet people interested in helping Barry at War to create the 'Glamorgan Wartime Heritage Centre',

or who may be carrying out similar research to ourselves".

Money raised at the 'Glamorgan Wartime Heritage Centre' open day will help towards further exhibits for the centre, and purchasing the equipment needed to record and present the area's wartime heritage.

The open day will run from 11am until 3pm, and admission is free.

Call Ade Pitman on 07930 874161 or see the website at www.wartimeglamorgan.co.uk for more information.

'Wait and See' demonstration

ON Tuesday, March 12, members will welcome Mrs Ruth Milton Jones.

The title of the demonstration is 'Wait and See'.

Meetings are held at the St Nicholas Hall, St Nicholas Road, Barry, commencing at 2.15pm. New members are always welcome

PACT meetings

LLANTWIT MAJOR PACT at the local leisure centre, March 13 at 7pm.

ILLTYD PACT, at the Mount Sorrel Hotel, Porthkerry Road, Barry on March 21 at 7pm.

RHOOSE PACT, at the Celtic Way Community Centre, Rhoose on March 21 at 7pm.

Mothering Sunday

SAINT David's Methodist Church, Winston Road, Barry, is holding an all age church service on Sunday March 10, for Mothering Sunday at 9.45 am, all are welcome. Contact the minister on Tel 406262, or email revpete@live.co.uk.

The Monthly Messy Church in Barry takes place on March 11 at

Crossway Methodist Church, Court Road, Barry, from 3.30 – 4.45pm. Children from ages four to 11 (with a parent/guardian) are welcome. Contact Deacon Sam Tel: 406262 or deaconsam@live.co.uk

Visit website to see what is planned for Holy Week & Easter in the Vale: www.valeofglamorgancircuit.org.uk.

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Out and About with The GEM

Street surgeries

MP for Ogmore, Huw Irranca-Davies, will be in Llangenor on Friday, March 8, for street surgeries between 1pm and 3pm, followed by a drop-in surgery at the Richard Price Centre, Betws

Road, Llangenor, Bridgend, CF32 8PF.

Councillors' surgery

THE Labour councillors for Castleland Ward, Chris Elmore, Pamela Drake, Les Kuhnell, will be holding their month advice sur-

gery on Saturday, March 9, at the Drop In Centre, Castleland Community Centre, Belvedere Crescent, Barry, between 10.30am and 12pm.

No appointment is necessary. For further information, contact Coun Chris Elmore on 01446 450007 or 07967 506116.

AM's surgery

VALE AM Jane Hutt, will be holding an advice surgery on Saturday, March 9, from 10am-12 noon at the Barry Citizens' Advice Bureau on 119 Broad Street.

Tabernacle get-together

TABERNACLE Presbyterian Church will be holding a coffee morning on Saturday, March 9, in the Llantion Hall, Llantwit Major, from 10.30am to 12pm.

Entrance £3, to include tea/coffee and biscuits. Entertainment will be provided by Marianne Harman and friends. All proceeds will go to Tabernacle Presbyterian Church funds.

History lecture

THE next meeting of the Dinas Powys Local

History Society will be held on Tuesday, March 12, at 7.30pm in Kynance Hall with a lecture by Mr Aldon Grisdale on 'post-Roman Dinas Powys'.

An administration fee of £1.50 for members and £3 for non-members will be charged at the door. All are welcome to attend. Enquiries to Betty Williams on 02920 513525.

Community transport

GREENLINKS Community Transport will be available to give advice and information to residents of rural areas in the Vale; Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry, on March 12 (10am-12 midday). Call 01446 732385.

Buttrills AGM

BUTTRILLS Community Association is holding its Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, March 12 at 7.30pm at Buttrills Community Centre, North Walk, Barry. All welcome.

Penarth talk

TO mark the 50th anniversary of CS Lewis's death, All Saints Church in Victoria Square,

Penarth, is hosting a Lent talk and discussion series based on his Christian writings, led by Rev Dr Mark Dimond. The final talk on Wednesday, March 13 is on the subject of 'love'.

To celebrate Mothering Sunday on March 10, services in the parish of Penarth All Saints will have a special focus on motherhood, with flowers for all the ladies!

For more information, visit www.allsaintspenarth.co.uk.

Cabinet forum

THE Vale Council Cabinet question and answer forum takes place on Wednesday, March 13, at Wick Village Hall starting at 7pm. All residents are welcome.

Free play

TO celebrate National Learn to Play Day on Saturday, March 16, Penny Weedon Kerr (in association with Cardiff Live Music Club) will be offering free 'Koffee, Kake and Keyboard' workshops in Boverton.

Telephone 01446 792171.

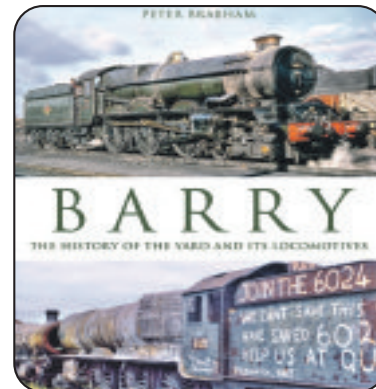
Barry Railway book is a must for fans

A MUST for all railway fans is Peter Brabham's *Barry - The History Of The Yard And Its Locomotives* (Published by Ian Allan at £35 and available from the Ian Allan Bookshop in the Royal Arcade in Cardiff).

The hardback 256-page book tells the legendary story of the Barry scrapyard which was instrumental in saving more than 200 locomotives and gave life to the railway preservation movement.

There are many fascinating photographs of some famous locomotives before, during and after their restoration and full details of the subsequent careers of all the featured locomotives on Britain's heritage railways.

The front cover shows GWR 'King' class No 6023 King Edward II captured on shed at Cardiff Canton



depot on February 18, 1962 and the bottom picture shows the deteriorating condition of GWR No 6023 King Edward II in Barry scrapyard on September

2, 1978.

This is a book that railway enthusiasts will treasure for the rest of their lives.

BRIAN LEE

Sustainable Wick Community Group are organising a

QUIZ NIGHT

Starting at 7.30pm on Sunday 17th March, to be held in The Star Inn, Wick.

The Barley Mow

CRAIG PENLLYN

would like to thank all our long standing customers for their great support following a recently reported event.



This occurred over a year ago, at which point we were carrying out essential building work.

We can assure all customers we have completed these works including new flood defences.

We are confident of now achieving and maintaining high standards and continuing to produce high quality food dishes using locally sourced produce and ingredients.

www.barleymow.net

OCEAN LOUNGE · PORTHKERRY

It looks like being a classic summer season here at the Ocean Lounge. With a few more improvements, and some changes to the menu and a new specials board, we are definitely worth visiting.

Can you be entertained?

Mixing it up a bit more this year! As well as cabaret nights on a Saturday we will be having some bands and comedians, plus a mixture of other acts on a Friday (Easter onwards) such as karaoke, theme nights, band nights, comedy nights, and drag artists, there is something for everyone. It's the only place to go to over the Bank holiday weekends, with 3 big nights of entertainment - Keep an eye out for what's coming.

And to eat? We offer a great value menu from only £4.99 with traditional family favourites, plus some more unusual fayre too, mostly sourced from local growers and suppliers, fresh meats every Sunday, roasted to perfection with only the finest vegetables used.

At only £7.95 our Sunday lunch offers exceptional value for a table served meal in relaxed surroundings without the hustle and the bustle of the usual carvery fare. Booking for lunch is definitely recommended.

The location? With fantastic views from the cliff top overlooking the Bristol Channel, with views to The Knap and the historic islands of Steephelm and Flatholm, and on a clear day across to Weston it is a great place to find refreshment with the large cliff top patio and outdoor seating and BBQ area, with a monthly out-door BBQ with live band from 3pm (subject to weather conditions), and yet only a 10 minute trip from Barry or Llantwit Major.

What else? A large car park and pleasant location makes us an ideal place to hold a wedding reception, birthday party, conference or any private function. In short, a great place, serving good food and good beer, with a great atmosphere!

Bookings for Mothers Day now being taken, 2 course meal £9.95, plus entertainment. Booking definitely recommended to avoid disappointment.

From the end of May, Thursday Night Quiz plus grab a burger & chips with a pint for only £5.95

All RBS Rugby shown on large TV Screens plus HD 10ft Cinema Screen & surround sound. Half time food for all Welsh matches.

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See our advert in The GEM for regular entertainment updates and extended opening dates

Stoker is a gothic thriller that is visually superb

FANS of Korean cinema (and I know there are plenty reading this column) will already be well aware of Park Chan-Wook, but for those less worldly, he is a writer-director whose work has specialised in tales of revenge and writing wrongs, beautifully stylised and never scrimping on showing the consequences of actions.

Having plied his trade in Asia, he makes his English-language debut with *Stoker*, which tells the story of India (Mia Wasikowska), whose world is turned upside down when her father dies and her mother, Evelyn (Nicole Kidman), invites her estranged uncle Charles (Matthew Goode) to stay with the family.

Suspicious of Charles,

India soon finds herself becoming infatuated with this mysterious man as his motives slowly become clear...

Having enjoyed Park Chan-Wook's previous works, it was with a mixture of excitement and trepidation that *Stoker* was approached, the American film industry often diluting and weakening the strengths of directors for whom English is not their first language.

While the film is a gothic delight, stylish and macabre with a slow-wrought tension that burns throughout, matched by a strong debut script from *Prison Break*'s Wentworth Miller, it also feels slightly empty, the beautiful visuals lacking enough oomph underneath for it to really grab hold of you.

The film is most certainly beautiful to look at, Chan-Wook's distinct style is unaffected by working abroad and is full of wonderful moments that very rarely feel like art for art's



by **GARETH JAMIESON**

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sake.

The direction is thoughtful, loaded with subtext, with every shot having meaning, the sharper-eyed deconstructing the elements of the story through Chan-Wook's visual storytelling, while those happy to sit back and enjoy the ride can just luxuriate in a wonderfully-shot piece of work.

It is more than matched by Wentworth Miller's screenplay, a taut story that oozes tension, duplicity and mystery in equal measure, but when stripped down to the bare bones becomes something a lot more well-worn.

Thankfully, the execution is what avoids it becoming the predictable fare that a lesser director would let it slip into.

Coupled with Miller's sharp characterisation, it takes it a cut above, as do the performances.

Mia Wasikowska has previous in playing troubled teens on the cusp of maturity (you could argue that India is a more realistic Alice, shorn of her Wonderland) and the actress takes great delight in delivering a keen performance, her awkward body language and frowning features giving the character an unsettling edge.

Nicole Kidman, as her frosty mother, unsure of how to deal with her daughter, is a match for Wasikowska, all flinty features and resentment and regret, leaving her more than open to the attentions of Matthew Goode's mysterious Charles.

With an almost vampire-like charisma (the inspiration perhaps for the title?), Goode is superb, the chiselled cool hiding a malevolence that only rarely comes to the surface but whose presence you can feel constantly, and his is the highlight of a well-acted ensemble.

Underneath it all there isn't as much substance as you would maybe expect, but the beauty of the direction and wonderful performances somewhat make up for this in what is a strong, if slightly flawed, work.

VERDICT - Park Chan-Wook's English-language debut goes very well. *Stoker* is a visually gorgeous, gothic thriller that goes for style over substance but still engages.

A strong script and wonderful performances mean that the quality on show takes this a step above similar fare. Enjoyable.

SEE THIS IF YOU

LIKED: *Oldboy* (2003), *Dracula* (1931)

Coveted award just the right medicine for harpist Llywelyn!

WELSH harpist Llywelyn Jones won the first Lyon and Healy harp competition, held at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama in Cardiff recently.

The final year student was one of three international winners, beating off 37 other competitors to win the coveted award and £2,000 worth of prize money.

This success comes 10 days after he won the concerto trials at the Royal College, and an opportunity to perform in a concert at the Dora Stoutzker Hall at the college this autumn.



ABOVE: Llywelyn Jones

Lyon and Healy support competition and help launch careers, by providing a gold concert harp as first prize at the USA International Harp Competition and the International Harp Contest in Israel.

The Cardiff competition is a stepping-stone for Llywelyn to the major competitions in Los Angeles and Tel Aviv.

Llywelyn's dedication prompted him to enlist the help of the Centre for Integrated Sports Medicine's clinic (CISM) at Ewenny, a specialist company providing a unique medical system to help clients achieve peak performance.

Llywelyn said: "This was the biggest competition that I have done. My goal was to win the concerto trials but I didn't dream that I would win the Lyon and Healy."

"The team at CISM have undoubtedly helped to improve my success since I started my programme with them seven months ago."

Book show on line

A LINE-UP of authors and illustrators will be beamed live to homes, schools, bookshops and libraries when 'The Biggest Book Show on Earth' returns for World Book Day today (March 7).

The event, to be hosted by children's writer and TV presenter Tony Robinson, will see bestselling authors and illustrators join the UK's original online live-streamed festival celebrating books and reading for youngsters.

Broadcast live from the Queen Elizabeth Hall in London, it will

include *Horrid Henry* author Francesca Simon showing how to bring characters to life, and 'grand dame' of children's literature, Shirley Hughes, explaining how to use illustrations.

Also taking to the stage to offer their insights to children to help them improve their writing will be Lauren Child (*Ruby Redford*), Liz Pichon (*Tom Gates*), Cathy Cassidy (*The Chocolate Box Girls*) and Anthony Horowitz (*Diamond Brothers*), while illustrators Rachel Bright and Guy Parker-Rees will demonstrate how to draw characters and book covers.

Visit www.worldbookday.com.

MAYOR'S COFFEE

THE Mayor of the Vale will hold a coffee morning in the Corporate Suite, Civic Offices, Barry, on March 12, 10.30am to 12 noon. All proceeds will go to the Llamau charity.

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SMEs are life-blood of the Barry economy

THE economic assessments of a nation often focus on big companies – banks, supermarkets, car manufacturers, builders – but a vital cog in business is provided by small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs).

Micro companies employ up to 10 people, small, up to 50, and medium, up to 250.

In Barry a large num-

ber of these companies are based on local trading estates. Most are owned by local people.

Smaller companies have distinct advantages over larger ones. They are 'nimble' and can react to changes demanded by customers instantly – large businesses can take a long time to roll out changes.

Many of these Barry businesses give excellent service because they get to know their clients well, want to do their best for them, and rely on repeat business.

So what sort of businesses do we have on our trading estates in Barry?

There are catering businesses, garages, building trade suppliers, double-glazing companies, valeting businesses, meat suppliers, costume jewellery stockists, and a business centre to name a few!

Some people are naturally sceptical about how beneficial large companies and globalisation is to a local economy. How much do they put back into the local community? Do they pay a fair amount of tax?

The owners of small businesses live in their own communities, often with local suppliers of their own, so the money is reinvested.

Next time you need a particular service, don't just think of using a chain supplier, or a multi-national, think of local businesses in the Vale – they may provide that little bit extra.



Angela Baker of Baker's Baguettes has an impressive range of food for busy people on the go.



ABOVE:
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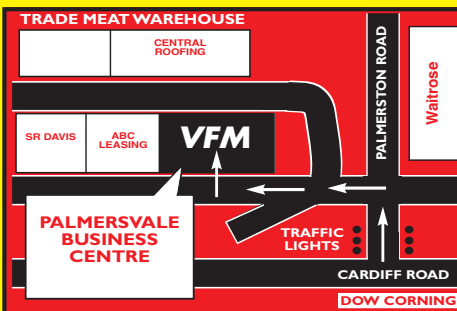
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CARDIFF ROAD, BARRY INDUSTRIAL ESTATES More than meets the eye!



ABOVE: Hawthorn Travel.

A CRAFTING DEPARTMENT STORE IN THE VALE

WITH the team already expanded by two new members, 2013 is going to be an exciting year for The Bead Room at Boxes and Busts, who celebrate their 10th birthday this June.

There is a wonderful community spirit with Louise and Paul at the helm and at its core is a Saturday afternoon crèche, just for crafters not children!

From 1pm to 4pm every Saturday there are refreshments and lots of chat to go along with jewellery-making help and advice. All are welcome to join in.

There are lots of new plans to be unveiled this year and top of the list is a super new website due to be launched after Easter.

The Bead Room carries the widest stock of beads and findings in the area.

The latest additions to The Bead Room are Italian hollow glass beads and the Polaris range which included 12mm Rounds set with Swarovski.

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Captain's approval boosts Year of Convoy

BARRY and the rest of the Vale has a great friend in Captain Joe Earl of Bristol, who has penned many a nautical verse or two over the years.

He has come to the aid of the local Barry Merchant Navy Association branch on many occasions.

Joe was recently awarded the Merchant Navy Medal for his service, and his pen, among many other activities.

Much of his tribute work features Barry and has locally been presented to the mayors of the town and Vale over the years and forms part of the Merchant Navy walls at both Barry and the Vale Council offices.

These feature 'The Paddle Steamer 'Barry', Barry Seamen and Barry Dock – Loading Coal. They were always intended for the people of Barry.

His poem, *A Stamp of Approval*, has helped Barry branch and the National Merchant Navy Association, among others, pursue a set of post office stamps that are due to be launched in September of this year, the Year of the Convoy, and will feature the turning point of the Battle of the Atlantic in which many men from the Vale served.

Joe's stamp of approval certainly touched Stanley Gibbons, the worldwide leader in philately, and a £50 cheque from them for an article of the same title, kickstarted the now completed renovation/refurbishment of the shared grave of Captain Cecil Foster, master of the SS Trevesa.

Cecil, of East View Terrace, Barry, was received by the King at Buckingham Palace, loved by his wife Minnie and immortalised in another poem by Barry by Joe. A further tribute to Cecil and all those lost from Trevesa is planned for later this year.

Joe has also penned *Tell The Children* (for the Year of the Convoy). The Battle of the Atlantic was the dominating factor all through the war, and we should not forget that everything happening elsewhere, on land, at sea or in the air, ultimately depended on its outcome.

Tell The Children A special breed of men my friend – a special breed of men, I'm talking of the convoys and remember once again, Seventy years have passed proving what we owe, Our debt is all the

greater from all those years ago.

Our Mariners endured, intrepid and low paid, With stubborn sense of purpose carried on their trade, Still they served our country sailing there and back, Hauling vital cargoes in times that looked so black.

These doughty Merchant Seamen knew their cruel fate, If struck by cunning sea-wolves lurking there in wait, If they lived to tell their story and strived to stay afloat, They struggled on with hardships aboard an open boat.

Life goes on of course, we age and youngsters grow,

Ask them about the convoys find out what they know, Show them our Red Duster, explain our island race, Shed light upon the Nelson touch and put the seaman's case.

Spell out the wartime rations and shortage of supplies, Clarify the fight they had risking of their lives, Tell them of the oceans and lifelines to supply, Our children have their freedom and should know the reason why.

Between 1941 and 1945, the Arctic convoys transported more than four million tonnes of supplies to the Soviet Union. More than 100 ships were lost with 3,000 sailors lost their lives. Winston Churchill said the Arctic convoy mission was "The most dangerous journey in the world".

IN BRIEF Support group's next meeting

The next meeting of the Vale of Glamorgan Fibromyalgia Support Group is on Tuesday, March 12 11am - 1pm.

Telephone Gaynor for more details on 01446-733315

Golden Oldies

A CHARITY that uses music to brighten the lives of the elderly and isolated, launched its new session in Barry recently at Salem Baptist Church, Beryl Road.

This had been made possible by a partnership between Golden Oldies Cymru and Age Concern, Cardiff and Vale. Well over 25 people attended the first taster session; it costs £1 which includes tea/coffee and a free golden oldies t-shirt!

Next session with Beth Ford, session leader, is on March 12 at 10.30am-11.30am.

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Readers' Letters

Transparency better than confidentiality

THERE have been many letters and articles in The GEM recently relating to proposals to close three Vale schools.

Communities, schools, parents and children have been shocked and upset and understandably so. Key individuals should consider their position.

But there is also a wider and more fundamental problem and that is about the need for secrecy in dealing with matters that will have a major impact in our community. I use the word secrecy in preference to the jargon 'Part 2' because it more accurately informs.

Confidentiality on some matters is necessary but I wonder on what grounds the decision to make this matter hush-hush was based?

Openness should be the default position, with officials having to fully explain any secrecy, and councillors challenging

that reasoning.

The new Labour-led council should have realised the highly emotive issue to close schools needed to be managed intelligently and sensitively, and there are better ways of doing that apart from a behind closed doors approach.

To expect so many people to have kept the secret was naïve, and the emphasis on blaming the source of the leak was perhaps bordering on paranoia.

Labour's election

manifesto promised to, 'Give the public a bigger say on the things that really matter to them and listen to their views' and the early cabinet agendas showed some signs of improved openness and transparency.

This may have been a better approach to keeping the issue away from the public glare. Finally, the concept of consulting the people after taking the decision lacks credibility.

Dennis Harkus
(FocusBARRY supporter)

Use bus service – OR LOSE IT!

IREFER to my recent letter in The GEM about the bus service 86 to Culverhouse, to which I received a positive response from readers.

After initial concerns about the financial viability of this route, Hawthorn Travel has decided to continue on a

two-month trial period, starting from Thursday March 14.

The altered timetable means that residents in Sully will also have the opportunity to use the twice weekly service.

The bus will start at the Garden Suburb in Barry and travel through to Sully, via Cog Road, on a circular route, back to South Road and then on to Dinas Powys.

The residents who support this service on Thursdays and Saturdays really appreciate it, and passengers will have a full two hours at Culverhouse after getting off at Marks and Spencer.

Notices with the bus timetable will be in the libraries in Sully, Penarth and Barry and Dinas Powys by the beginning of next week. Alternatively, times can be obtained by ringing me on 029 2051 3274 or from Andrew Eccleshare at the Vale Council, 01446 700 111.

Hawthorn Travel is keen to make this special service a success. I would ask that residents who would like the chance to spend a couple of hours, perhaps having a coffee with friends or doing some shopping, do their best to support this.

It really is a case of 'use it or lose it'.

Val Hartrey,
Dinas Powys

SHARE YOUR VIEWS!

Let us know what you think about what is going on in the Vale - email gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk

BRIDGEND INDUSTRIAL ESTATE

Business update...

Professionals - Just a stone's throw away!

Local trading estate offers huge variety

WHEN it comes to looking at the economic health of a town such as Bridgend, some of the most important areas can sometimes be overlooked.

Members of the public who are locked into a 'retail' mindset – whether that be town centre or out-of-town – don't give enough thought to what is available on areas like the Bridgend Industrial Estate.

This estate is important for two reasons. First, the traders there are making a huge difference to the area by offering employment, generating ancillary economic activity and, of course, paying their business rates!

The estate is big in every sense – in area, in importance and in the variety of goods and services on offer.

If you drive around the 300-acre estate and check out the main roads and the side roads, you can clock up about five miles – but that petrol money will be cash well spent.

The Bridgend Industrial Estate stands on land once devoted to the Second World War effort, when the Royal Ordnance Factory (ROF) produced all kinds of munitions.

Now, the range of businesses is vast. Several motor dealerships are based on the estate and, logically, so are all the motor spe-

cialists you could need.

Whether you need work on regular car maintenance, bodywork, or tyres, there is a specialist on site somewhere in the estate.

Celtic Tyres for instance (see their ad on page 35) have been a fixture on the estate for years.

When it comes to homes and gardens, once again the choice is huge, from tiling to furniture, and from bedrooms to building materials.

It is fair to say that if you want something inside the home, or outside in the garden, you will find it on the Bridgend Industrial Estate.

Many of the established businesses on the estate find that customers come from far and wide.

Its proximity to the M4 makes it easy to get to, and all the businesses have plenty of parking space, so that once you have found the business you need, then visiting is hassle free!

The administrative centre of the estate – its own 'town centre' – shows just how much it matters to the economy of Bridgend, with several high street banks there, together with a cafe, post office, newsagent and a laundry.

In these trying days when resources are stretched to the limit, there is real value to be found on the estate.

It's well worth a look!

MEET THE ADVERTISERS...



Bridgend Volvo - at your service!



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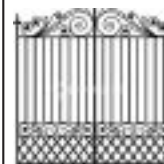


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BRIDGEND INDUSTRIAL ESTATE

Business update...
Professionals - Just a stone's throw away!

MEET THE ADVERTISERS...



Don't tell anybody... Mark Johnson celebrates a big '0' birthday on Friday, March 8.



Solar Blinds – weekly adverts usually appear in the 'classified' section.

Del's Tyres and Repairs

DEL'S TYRES has been operating on Bridgend Industrial Estate since January 2011, and in that time has already built up a loyal customer base.

Delvin Baber, owner of Del's Tyres, has a passion for motor vehicles, and a wealth of knowledge of the trade – from running his own coach and taxi business, to 13 years managing a busy parts department for a Renault dealership.

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Estate is a great base for Town & Country

TOWN & Country Bedrooms are celebrating their second year on Bridgend Industrial Estate after moving from Bridgend town centre.

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best in made to measure fitted bedrooms, home office and sliding door wardrobes.

"It's the best move we ever made."

Paul and his team cover all of south Wales and often carry out bespoke installations all over the country.

"In the last year, we worked in London, Bristol, Gloucester, Weymouth and Swindon, to name but a few places, and it was all on recommendation."

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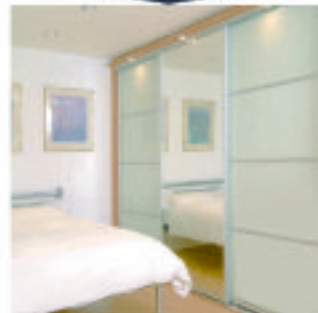
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Murlande Way, Rhooose - £475 pcm
Modern mid link, Two beds, New
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Partridge Road, St Athan - £495 pcm
Two Bed, Kitchen/diner, GCH

Pontypridd Road, Barry - £495 pcm
First Floor, 2 Double Bed flat, Refitted
Bathroom, Garage

Pinewood Square, St Athan - £500 pcm
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High Street, Barry - £525 pcm
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Beaufort Way, Rhooose - £550 pcm
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Enclosed rear garden

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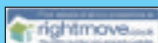
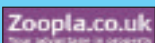
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PHYLIS STREET, BARRY
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LAKIN DRIVE, BARRY
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£299,950



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TREM Y DON, BARRY
 Spacious corner position. Extended detached. Four bedrooms. Living room, dining room, two conservatories. Sunken pool, summerhouse housing hot tub and bar (to remain). Ample parking.
£329,950



MAIN STREET, BARRY
 End of terraced. Three bedrooms. Through living/dining room. Ground floor bathroom. In need of modernisation. Gas CH, partially upvc DG. Investment property.
£69,950



WEST WALK, BARRY
 Spacious plot. Ideal for further extending (subject to usual planning consent) Three bedrooms. hobby area in attic. Living room, ground floor bathroom. Semi detached. Driveway/garage. No chain, enclosed level garden.
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CHANNEL CLOSE, BARRY
 Modern detached. Living room, dining, sitting room, fitted kitchen, shower room, wc, three bedrooms, family bathroom, shower room with garage/enclosed garden.
£160,000



FONMON PARK ROAD, BARRY
 Modern detached, wc, cloakroom, living room, conservatory, fitted kitchen, dining room, master with ensuite, level enclosed rear garden. Driveway/garage, side access, upvc DG. Gas CH. Viewing essential.
£164,950



GLADSTONE ROAD, BARRY
 Bay fronted, mid terraced traditional. Shower/utility/wc. 21ft through living room. Kitchen/diner. Three bedrooms. Hobby area in attic with velux window. Low maintenance rear garden.
£124,950



DOCK VIEW ROAD, BARRY
 Mid terraced traditional. Living room, second rec room used as bedroom - ensuite. Dining room, kitchen, three bedrooms. Shower room. upvc DG, Gas CH via replaced combi.
£117,950



ST NICHOLAS ROAD, BARRY
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£124,950



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COURTLANDS, BARRY
 First floor studio apartment. Open plan: living room, kitchen and bedroom. Separate bathroom. Communal door entry. Maintenance free living. No chain.
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YEW TREE COURT, BARRY
 Third floor apartment. Two bedrooms. Balcony overlooking Romilly Park. Fitted kitchen. Spacious living room. Designated parking.
£114,950



TENNYSON ROAD, BARRY
 Three bedroomed, mid linked traditional. Well presented. Enclosed rear garden. Easy access to link road.
£102,500

Girls football is growing in profile

GIRLS football has been growing rapidly in the Vale recently with new club, Vale Ladies & Girls Football Club, at the forefront of the development of the female game.

The club, which launched in the summer of 2012, has already become one of the largest female-only clubs in

south Wales, having created extensive links with local schools in all areas of the Vale.

Currently with five teams and 85 players competing in the South Wales Girls League, the club is growing on a weekly basis with new players getting inspired to take up the sport.

As well as running existing teams, the club have been very proactive

in providing opportunities for girls to experience football through school programmes and festivals.

In November 2012 the club launched the first 'Girls Football Primary School League' which brings 15 teams from 12 schools in the area together on a fortnightly basis to play regular friendly matches.

Chairman Luke Williams commented: "The club has successfully created links with over 25 schools in the local area as we see this as a fundamental area for the future growth of the game."

"We offer football for girls aged 7-16 and from September we will be launching our first ladies team, creating a pathway for players to continue playing into their adult life. We cater for all abilities so come and give it a go!"

The club are running two open evenings on Thursday, March 14 - 5pm-6pm at Penarth Leisure Centre and Wednesday, March 20 - 5pm- 6pm at Cadroxton Sports Hall, Barry.

For more information please visit our website: www.valegirlsfc.co.uk or email: info@valegirlsfc.co.uk; follow us on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/valegirlsfc and follow us on Twitter: @ValeGirlsFC. LW

SILVERWARE FOR THE VALE REDS

SPRING came early for the Vale Reds Disability football club when they played at a Pan Disability football festival at Skewen, Neath on March 3.

The club was invited to play by Bridgend Herons of the West Wales league in a tournament containing 10 teams.

The Vale Reds got off to a good start in the over-16s championship with a 5 - 0 win over Swansea City Bravehearts and this continued for the next three matches, with a 2 - 1 win over Swansea City VIP's including a goal straight from a corner, a 6 - 0 win against Cleddau Warriors with a hat-trick from captain Nic Latham and a 3 - 0 win over Neath Port Talbot Dragons with goals from Lewis Overton.

The Vale Reds then met RCT Tigers from the South East Pan Disability league that they usually play in. Both teams know each other well and the game was very tight until Anthony

Bracther went through to score in the first half.

Again the second half was very tight with both teams having good changes but again Anthony scored his second to give the Reds a 2 - 0 lead; a late goal from the RCT Tigers a minute from full time was not enough and the Vale Reds won the game 2 - 1.

The coaches would like to thank the players for the all their hard work in training which really did pay off at the festival; the club trains at Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg on a Wednesday night from 7pm to 9pm.

If you have a disability the Vale Reds are holding an open evening on Wednesday, March 20 from 7pm to 9pm at Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg; please come along to this free taster session.

If you would like more information please telephone Neil on 07827 334818 or see the website at Valeredsdisabilityfc.btc.k.co.uk.

NL

Scheme gives lift to Vale's high flying sports stars

INTERNATIONAL medal hopefuls, national champions and a skier aiming to compete in the 2014 Winter Olympics are among the talented sportsmen and women whose sporting ambitions are being supported by the Vale of Glamorgan Council's sports academy scheme.

The scheme, overseen by the council's sports and play development team, and run in partnership with Parkwood Community Leisure, is giving over 30 local elite-level athletes free use of leisure centres in the county to help them with their training needs.

One of those aiming for the pinnacle of their sport is Rob Taylor, a freestyle skier from Barry, who is targeting a place in Team GB's Half Pipe Ski Squad for the Sochi Games in Russia.

In addition to Rob, the sports academy scheme is also giving a helping hand to a number of other talented sportsmen and women from the Vale such as London 2012 athlete Brett

Morse, from Penarth, and Barry sprinter Rhys Knapman.

Another athlete whose ambitions are being supported is Jessica Wallington, who has recently become a guide runner to Paralympic athlete Tracey Hinton. Jessica and Tracey are aiming to win medals in this year's World Championships, followed by next year's Commonwealth Games and then the big one, the 2016 Paralympics in Rio.

Also on track for the Paralympics in Rio is 19-year-old cyclist James Brookman from Sully, who is in excellent form after setting several personal best times in training. The Vale Council is also rallying behind 16-year-old Ellen Mahenthiralingham, a rising star of Welsh badminton, as well as 19-year-old Matt Robinson from Llantwit Major, who competes in the sprint kayak and is part

of the Canoe Olympic Development Programme.

Meanwhile, sailors Matilda Matthews, 14, and Will Creaven, 16, are two sports academy scheme members who are hoping to emulate the sea-faring success of the Vale's most recent Olympic medallist, Hannah Mills.

Cllr Gwyn John, the Vale Council's Cabinet Member for Leisure, said: "We are really pleased to be able to offer this scheme and support talented individuals to reach their potential on a national and international stage. The sports academy scheme has been running for a number of years in the Vale and supported athletes such as Nicole Cooke earlier in their careers. I'm looking forward to seeing how the current scheme members develop over the next few years and wish them all the best for the future."

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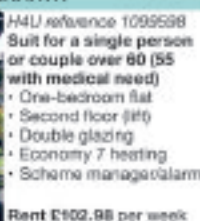
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OAK COURT, PENARTH



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Public Notice

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A PHARAGRAFF 7 ATODLEN 14
CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG (LLWYBRAU CYHOEDDUS RHIFAU 2 A 10 LLANCARFAN)
GORCHYMYN GWYRO 2005
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Eithaf y Gorchymyn o'i gadarnhau yw gwyro'r llywybrau cyhoeddus ger Broomfield Farm fel y'i gwelir ar Fap y Gorchymyn.
Mae copïau o'r Gorchymyn a gadarnhawyd a map y Gorchymyn i'w gweld yn rhad ac am ddim yn Swyddfeydd y Doc, Heol yr Iffordd, Y Barri rhwng 9:00am a 4:00pm yn ystod yr wythnos, o 7 Mawrth 2013 hyd 18 Ebrill 2013. Bydd copïau o'r map a'r Gorchymyn ar werth yma am £4.50 yr un.
Daw'r Gorchymyn hwn i rym ar 7 Mawrth 2013. Serch hynny, os bydd unrhyw un sy'n tybio iddo gael cans, yn dymuno holi ynghylch dilynienydd y Gorchymyn neu unrhyw oeddiarieddi ychydig, am nad ydychydig i'w parhau'r Ddeddf uchod, yntau na chydymffurfio â gofynion y Ddeddf neu nodiadau a wisiod o dan y gadarnhau'r Gorchymyn, caiff yr unigolyn hwnnw wisiod cans i'r Uchel Llys a dan Adran 287 Ddeddf Cynllunio Gwlad a Thref 1990, cyn pen 6 wythnos o ddyddiad cyhoeddi'r Rhybudd yn gyntaf, yn unol â pharagraff 7 Atodlen 14 y Ddeddf honno.
Dyddiedig 7 Mawrth 2013
Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Ddiwygiu Swyddfeydd y Doc, Dociau'r Barri, Y Barri CF63 4RT

NOTICE OF CONFIRMATION OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 SECTION 257 AND PARAGRAPH 7 OF SCHEDULE 14 THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (PUBLIC FOOTPATHS NOS 2 & 10 LLANCARFAN) DIVERSION ORDER 2005
On the 21st day of January 2013 the Vale of Glamorgan Council confirmed the above Order.
The effect of the Order as confirmed is to divert the public footpaths near Broomfield Farm as shown on the Order Map.
A copy of the confirmed Order and Order map may be seen at Docks Offices, Subway Road, Barry free of charge between 9:00am and 4:00pm on weekdays from 7th March 2013 until 18th April 2013. Copies of the Order and map may be bought here at a price of £4.50.
This Order comes into force on the 7th March 2013 but if any person aggrieved by the Order desires to question its validity or that of any provision contained in it on the ground that it is not within the powers of the above Act, or on the ground that any requirement of that Act or any regulation made under it has not been complied with in relation to the confirmation of the Order, he/she may apply to the High Court for any of these purposes under Section 287 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 within 6 weeks from the date on which Notice is first published as required by paragraph 7 of Schedule 14 to that Act.
Dated this 7th day of March 2013
Director of Development Services
Docks Offices, Barry Docks, Barry, CF63 4RT

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require**Support Workers**

to cover day and night shifts in a residential care setting for young adults with learning disabilities and challenging behaviour.

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Birthdays

Nancy Davidge**Happy 90th Birthday for 6th March!**

With best wishes and lots of love from Gaye, Gary, Walkiria, Jasmine, Naomi, Nicole and Tony. XXX



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Family Notices

BROWN Adrian Paul

Peacefully at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Adrian, much loved husband of Hilary, devoted father of Lauren, Holly and Ashleigh, loving son of Hilary and Paul, brother of Steven, uncle of Anastasia, Tamzin, Megan and Alexander.

Funeral Service at Cardiff and Vale Crematorium, Barry on Wednesday, 13th March at 12.45pm. No flowers by request.

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WAKEHAM

Peter

Sadly on Tuesday 26th February 2013 at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend, Peter, a very much loved husband of Anne, devoted dad of Simon, Tim and Gemma, adored grandad of Chloe, Josh and Jacob.

Funeral service will take place on Friday 8th March 2013 in Coychurch Crematorium at 11.00am.

All further enquires to Rosemount Funeral Home, 19 Coychurch Road, Bridgend, CF31 3AP. Telephone number: - 01656 653156

Thank You

THANK YOU

Sylvia would like to say a big, big, thank you to the two ladies who helped her when she fell in Gaen Street, Barry, on Thursday February 28, whilst taking her granddaughter and friend home from Romilly School.

Happy 90th Birthday Nancy DavidgeFrom all your friends at **The GEM** XXX**Happy 90th Birthday and Mother's Day Betty Rastin**10 March 2013
Love from all the family
XXX

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Public Notice

Notice of application to vary a Premises Licence under Section 34 of the Licensing Act 2003

Notice is hereby given that the Hon. Anthony Bennett in respect of premises at 12-14 Broad Street, Barry, CF62 1LH has applied to the Vale of Glamorgan for a variation of a Premises Licence. The proposed variation is to extend the sale of alcohol and provision of regulated entertainment, to include indoor sporting events, live music, recorded music and anything of a similar description from the current hours of Monday to Thursday 10:00 to midnight, Friday and Saturday 10:00 to 02:00 hours to the following morning to the proposed hours of Monday to Sunday 10:00 to 03:00 the following morning. To extend the opening hours of the premises from the current hours of Sunday to Thursday 00:00 to 02:00 the following morning, Friday and Saturday 10:00 to 03:00 the following morning, to Monday - Sunday 10:00 to 03:00 the following morning. To add the provision of late night refreshment to the Premises Licence Monday to Sunday 10:00 to 03:00 the following morning. The proposed variation is to seek approval of proposed alterations to the previous plan in accordance with plan drawing number P/13-088 submitted with the application. The alterations consist of: the 1st on ground floor intended as a bar, entrance lobby will be created with pay desk, additional tables created on both the upper ground level and basement. 24 booths implemented. The 2nd floor lobby on the basement level removed and dance floor added with 24 booths. Intended bar to be rebuilt and rear seating booths will be provided. Any representations by an interested party or responsible authority regarding the above variation must be received in writing by the Licensing Team, Vale of Glamorgan, Civic Offices, Holford Road, Barry, Vale of Glamorgan, CF62 8BJ no later than 1 April 2013 stating the grounds for objection. The request of the Vale of Glamorgan and the result of the application may be inspected at the address of the council, given above, during normal business hours on all of the council's website - www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk. It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. The maximum fine for such a person is liable on summary conviction for the offence is £5,000.

Public Notice

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL
CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG
Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990
Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012

Development that may affect a Conservation Area/ Datblygu a allai effeithio ar Ardal Gadwraeth

Application No./ Rhif y cais: 2013/00026/FUL
Proposal/Cynnig: Two storey extension
Location/Lleoliad: 2, St. Augustines Crescent, Penarth
Conservation Area/ Ardal Gadwraeth: Penarth

Details may be inspected for 21 days at the address given below, or via <http://vlogonline.planning-register.co.uk/>

Gall manylion eu harchwilio am 21 diwrnod yn y cyfeiriad a roddir isod, neu drwy <http://vlogonline.planning-register.co.uk/>

Dated / Dyddiedig: 7 March, 2013

M. Goldsworthy, Operational Manager Development & Building Control, Vale of Glamorgan Council, Dock Office, Barry, CF63 4RT

GOODALL Amelia Agnes

Peacefully on February 28th in her 95th year, at Milsom House Nursing Home with her daughter Patricia at her side. Amelia will be sadly missed by all who knew her.

The funeral service will take place on Wednesday, 13th March at 11am in Coychurch Crematorium. No flowers at Amelia's request, but donations may be made to Ty Hafan c/o the Funeral Director (cheques only please).

COOPER Valerie

Suddenly and peacefully Valerie passed away at her home in Llantwit Major on February 25, after a long illness. Much loved wife of Geoffrey, she will be sadly missed by all her family.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Ffnon. Funeral Tuesday March 19, service and cremation 2.15pm at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend. No flowers by request, donations in lieu, if desired, to The Osteoporosis Society c/o J James, 11 Ffnon Road, Rhose, Vale of Glamorgan CF62 3DZ.

HARRIS Beryl Sophia

Roy would like to express his sincere thanks to family, friends and neighbours for every expression of kindness and sympathy he has received following his recent bereavement and also for the generous donations received for Cancer Research UK in Beryl's memory.

Special thanks to Dr Isabelle Graham and nurses. Thanks also to Thomas Brothers for their dignity and professionalism.

RICHARDS Marjorie

Marjorie (mother of Carole Pope) slipped away peacefully on 27th February 2013 with her family at her bedside.

The funeral will take place on Monday, 11th March 2013 at St Athan Church at 1.30pm, followed by a service at Coychurch Crematorium at 2.45pm.

She will be sadly missed by all who knew her and flowers may be sent to W James & Sons Funeral Home, Ffnon.

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SECONDS CRUISE TO DERBY WIN

BARRY 2nd XV finally returned to action following a long lay-off due to the weather and the Six Nations, with a local derby away at Old Penarthians.

The away side were looking to avenge the defeat of the Barrians by the same side three months ago, and were able to recall Joe McCann at fly-half and Jack Giddings into the back row, with veteran Lee David on the bench.

Barry started the game well as their pack took control in the scrum, forcing numerous turnovers to give their side the upper hand. With vast advantages in territory and possession, it was down to Adam Lee to open the scoring, slotting over a penalty opportunity from close range.

With the away side continuing their dominance, it was no surprise when they scored again. A quick penalty taken by scrum-half

Joel Williams found Ben Taylor out wide, who sprinted through to score his second try of the season. Adam Lee added the extras.

Old Pens were forced to defend heroically in their own twenty-two with the Barry attack rampant. Their valiant efforts, however, were not enough as the away backs combined once again to send Grantley Harris through to score

near the posts. The conversion was a formality.

Just when the game looked to be turning into a rout, the opposite happened. Lethargy and complacency suddenly overtook the away side, as the game became littered with handling errors, wrong decisions being made, and white line fever. There were no further scores before the interval as the match ceased to become a spectacle.

Coach Rhidian Scott voiced his frustration at half time, but unfortunately the Barry effort continued to be lethargic, and ill-discipline became the name of the game. This is totally unacceptable as the main culprits were the senior members of the side, who should be setting a better example to the younger players. The game, therefore, meandered on with countless scrums, line-outs, and penalties which suited the home side.

Barry finally snapped out of their daze when Scott made three changes, bringing on Lundy, David and Case from their replacement bench. It made an almost instant impact as a McCann chip was chased down well by the backs, and it was substitute Kyle Case on hand to profit from the pressure applied to score his team's third try. Lee was successful with the conversion.

Lions roar at Llandaff

AFTER such dreadful weather of late, it was a bright crisp sunny morning that greeted Barry Lions under-11s and Llandaff at Llandaff fields, but from the outset it was Barry's day.

Mason Allen caught the ball from the kick-off and ran up the touchline to score, this starting more than sixty five minutes of very impressive rugby.

With Louis Harris on kicking duty, he slotted the first conversion over beautifully and Barry were buoyed by an immediate seven point lead. Over the next twenty minutes, Barry racked up another four great tries - Reece Adams, Mason with his second, Morgan Curran and Louis Harris.

Louis, discovering that he was now expected to convert parallel to the tries for the first time, found it hard to make the distance at

times, but with his great work ethic and natural ball-kicking skills, Barry know this won't be such an issue in the future.

In the second half, they continued to make the best of their opportunities with Jake Frost powering through with a score, moments later followed by Mason's hat-trick. Pleasingly for Louis, a last moment touchline shout from his coach (and dad), encouraged Mason to throw in a deft side-step, allowing him to place the ball between the posts and ensure another couple of points were racked up with the conversion.

An unconventional 'third half' of 20 minutes was played, and two more tries followed from Mason, bookended by great scores from Morgan Curran and Calvin Phillips (complete with a Louis conversion), which left the scoreboard showing 11 tries (four converted) for a final score of 63-0.

Sensing that the bonus point was there for the taking, Barry surged forward in the last quarter of the game against tired Old Penarthians legs. David Williams made another characteristic burst from his own half, only to be tackled metres short of the line. The support play was excellent, however, and it was down to another replacement, David, to power through to score the bonus try. Lee added the extras.

With the bonus point in the bag Barry began to play more expansively, and it was down to Alex Evans to round off a good personal performance, as he cut through from deep to score a good team try. Joel Williams' successful conversion proved to be the last kick of the game, the final score 38-0.

Despite the handsome winning margin, the players and management will be disappointed with their level of performance, and the lethargy and indiscipline shown was alarming. Let's hope that these matters will be ironed out before the next league game, away at Rhiwbina, on March 23.

Team: Lee; Evans, Harris, D Williams, Taylor; J Williams, McCann; Elsworth, Hosking, Heard; McTavish, Flynn; Giddings, L Jones, Rolfe (c).

Replacements: Lundy, Case, David, M Jones.

Man-of-the-match: Evans. **KC**

Results from Barrivale bridge club

LATEST results from Barrivale: February 5 and 12:

Barrivale mixed pairs - Session 1: First, Kay Dyer and Mike Close, 62.39 per cent; second, Carol James and Denis Mottram, 61.81; third, Celia Thomas and Huw Thomas, 59.03.

Barrivale mixed pairs - Session 2: First, Kay Dyer and Mike Close, 68.1 per cent; second, Jane Brook and Mick Green, 61.9; third, Carol James and Denis Mottram, 58.75.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale, if you would like to join us ring 01446 418380 or 01446 733425 or call at their Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry on Tuesdays at 7pm.

JB

MB

372 are the Champions



Squadron Leader Roger Beech presenting the winning trophy to Cadet Jamie-Leigh Bird

CADETS from 372 (Barry) Squadron, recently travelled to Caerphilly for the annual Inter Squadron Girls five-a-side football competition and came away victorious.

The team played exceptionally well and all the matches were close fought encounters; telling passes and hard work from all the players ensured good quality football was played throughout the tournament.

The semi final was played against a spirited team from 277 (Blackwood) Squadron, but goals from Jamie-Leigh Bird and Rachael Carbis helped to win the game 4-1.

In the final, 372 squadron played local rivals 1148 (Penarth) squadron with the Barry cadets just edging a close final 1-0 thanks to a winning goal by Jamie-Leigh Bird. All the girls were ecstatic and happy at their fantastic achievement at the end of the match, a result they didn't expect.

After the match Rachael Carbis said: "The final was a great match and we were really pleased to win today; Barry squadron has a proud tradition of sport and I am glad that we are

JH

Local runner goes around the world!

PHILIP MANFIELD from Barry, will be joining over 1,000 runners from the Mr Men and Little Miss team at this year's Virgin London Marathon on Sunday, April 21 as they attempt to run over 25,000 miles, the earth's circumference, to mark the 25th anniversary of Children with Cancer UK.

Philip (51), a train driver, has spent months preparing for the race and hopes to raise as much as possible for Children with Cancer UK. The charity was inaugurated by Diana, Princess of Wales in January 1988 after Eddie and Marion O'Gorman lost two children to cancer within nine months of each other.

Philip explained he chose to run this year's marathon for the charity because his dad and a very close family friend's son both died from cancer.

To help Children with Cancer UK raise essential funds to continue the fight against childhood cancer, visit www.childrenwithcancer.org.uk for more information.

St Andrews winter league round-up

THE first men's trophies of 2013 were awarded on Sunday, March 3 for the winners of the Winter League Shield and the Wayne Pritchard Memorial Plate.

After a winter of atrocious weather conditions where the course had to be closed on several occasions, the Winter League culminated on the final day of the tournament with four of the eight teams vying for the top spot.

The Winter League started back in October with the preliminary rounds of four groups. The winners and runners up of each group went on to the Winter League Finals and the remainder fought it out in the Wayne Pritchard Memorial Shield knockout competition.

The final of the Wayne Pritchard was between Alan Bannister and Phil Yee against Billy McCafferty and Terry Richardson. Alan has recently returned to golf after recovering from recurring back problems and on Saturday, his in-form partner Phil Yee added the Crazy Gang St. David's Day Trophy to the Crazy Gang Winter Shield won earlier in the year.

Their opposition, Billy McCafferty and Terry Richardson, continued their run of good form and the match was all square after 18 holes, forcing the cold and tired quartet into another 3 holes to decide the winner. On the last putt of the 21st hole, Billy McCafferty and Terry Richardson finally emerged as winners after a very close and well fought game.

The Winter League Shield also con-

cluded on Sunday with four teams capable of taking top spot. In the end, after an excellent winter campaign, Phil 'Dixie' Dixon and Mike Norris took the honours from Mike Preece and Dave Thomas, who finished in second place.

Last year's club captain, Neil Tipples, thought it would be a good idea to present the team that finished in bottom place with a wooden spoon trophy. This year the inaugural wooden spoon trophy was won by Malcolm Low and last year's captain Neil Tipples!

The club captain, John Lock, presented the winners with their trophies and thanked everybody who turned out, in all weathers, to make this event the success it was.

John also reminded players and guests of the forthcoming captain's race night on Good Friday, March 29, which is free and open to members and non members alike. This is definitely one of the most entertaining nights at the club and all monies raised are split between club funds and the captain's charity, which this year is Ty-Hapus in Holton Road, Barry.

The ladies' first trophy of the year, the Ladies Winter League, was won a couple of weeks ago by Jane Lott and Sarah Gronow. The ladies captain, Denise Lloyd, presented them with their trophy and, having achieved promotion in the ladies league two years on the trot, the ladies are looking forward to making it a hat trick.

For further information and full results visit the members' website www.samgolfclub.com.

Bees regain sting

BARRY Bees played Sully at home and were in indomitable form.

The Barry boys were keen to move the ball from the start and play at pace in the biting cold, and the forwards took the early initiative to dominate possession and territory. This gave the backs the perfect platform to play incisive running rugby, fully utilising the space out wide.

The tries began to flow and outside half Cian Anderson went over for the first try, after the forwards had once more gained the hard yards. This was quickly followed by another from sniping winger James Chapman, who pounced on a mistake in the Sully defence.

With the slope in their favour the Bees continued to pile on the pressure, and powerful winger Cole Saunders scored another after a flowing back move. Cian added two more surging tries before the break to make the half time score 25-0 to Barry, which was reflective of the quality of their rugby.

In the second half, Sully had more success, and began to gain a degree of parity against the bullish Barry forwards. But again Barry were first to score with Cole outpacing the Sully defence down the wing after a great run.

This was followed by another solo effort from the effervescent Cian, who mesmerised the Sully defence with his dummies and jinks.

Sully's courageous efforts were rewarded with a try from their pacy winger, as he took

the ball deep in his own half before outpacing the Barry defence down the touchline.

The Barry forwards continued to make major inroads, and this was exploited again with two more tries from Cole and Cian. Sully again responded well and their forwards managed to smash their way over after a decent period of possession.

It was apposite that Barry should finish the game in style, and once again Cian scythed his way through the Sully defence, after the Barry forwards had taken the ball the length of the

Squad: Isaac McBride, Jacob Pereira, Rhys Lloyd, Charlie Bale, Ethan Watkins, Joseph Nationstead, Stephen Williams, Cian Anderson, Spencer Williams, James Chapman, Cole Saunders Taylor Ross-Zeal, Simon McKenzie. **JM**

Atoms are split open

BARRY Atoms went on their travels for a return fixture away to Fairwater.

The Atoms struggled to contain them in the first half and definitely were second best. Fairwater ran in five tries and converted them all.

There were some glimmers of excellence mind you and through some strong play initially by the forwards then through the team, as the ball went out to the wings and was grounded by the pacy D.Griffiths, who also converted.

The second half looked to be more of the same as Fairwater pinned back Atoms time after time, but this seemed to stir something in the Barry side as back they came scoring a try again through team play which was then powerfully

taken forward by big F. Giosanu. Unfortunately C.Denbury slipped and hit the crossbar for the conversion.

We thought a comeback was on the cards as we did some pushing of our own, namely putting players into touch at some crucial times. Fairwater added to the tally and this then put them out of sight, for a final score of 42-12.

We still welcome new players if you fancy coming along and having a go; training times are 6pm-7pm every Friday at Romilly school, and 10am every Sunday at Barry RFC.

Squad: I.Escott, R.Rendell, D.Griffiths, F.Giosanu, D.Wall, C.Denbury, T.Mort, M.Guthrie, J.Parry, Z.Fifield, J.Long, J.Brown, R.Robinson, J.Couch. **DD**

THIS READY-TO-RUN BERLINGO EVEN HAS ROOM FOR A COOKER!

A FRIEND needs a broken cooker replacing immediately; I suggest repairing it – but he says it costs more to repair than to replace.

He is frustrated that only the four hobs on his Beko work and that an element for the grill and oven needs replacing at considerable expense, which isn't justifiable.

"Older cookers don't have built in redundancy," my cynical friend claims, "like all new appliances, which are designed to fail so that the manufacturer and their supply chain continue to make money after the product has been sold."

Now, normally, I wouldn't be able to help him because firstly I am no electrician and secondly, even with the best will in the world, a cooker will

MOTORING by TIM SAUNDERS

not fit in the back of my old Ford Fiesta.

But this week, I'm driving a shiny new Citroën Berlingo van with double doors at the rear and a helpful sliding door at the side.

So I suggest that we pop down to this reconditioning specialist I know not far from where I live and see what they can offer.

He's delighted, because he was fretting about how he would transport a cooker if he found one.

And he's even happier when he learns that there are three seats in the Berlingo cabin, so his girlfriend can come along, too.

Inside, the cabin is comfortable and, just like the exterior, it is reminiscent of the Peugeot Partner van, that I tested a few weeks ago.

Air conditioning, electric windows and a decent stereo all come as standard and the five-speed manual gearbox is easy to use.

The diesel engine is responsive and economical.

Anyway, they find a cooker for under £100 and we take it away there and then. It's fairly easy for us to manoeuvre it into the back of the van, showing it through the double doors on its back, and then my friend opens the sliding door and jumps through to pull it into the rear.

There's a step inside the sliding door that makes getting into it fairly easy.

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ABOVE:
The Citroën Berlingo 1.6HDi diesel went down very well with motoring correspondent Tim Saunders.

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GEM sport

Can Wales finally pack up their troubles and smile in Murrayfield?

IT is interesting to reflect that when the Wales team line up against Scotland at Murrayfield on Saturday, it will be the 118th clash in a Celtic rivalry that began all of 130 years ago, on January 8, 1883 at Raeburn Place.

That inaugural Four Nations match saw Scotland triumph, in the scoring system of the time, by three goals to one, and it spearheaded early years of success for the men from the north, before the rugby tide turned with the meteoric arrival of Wales' first 'golden age' at the turn of the century.

Of the 117 games played since, Wales have won 66, to Scotland's 48, with three matches drawn – marked by some notable, entertaining encounters over the years and wonderful moments that stick in the memory.

Gareth Edwards' lung-bursting race to score in the corner at Cardiff Arms Park in 1972, and Phil Bennett's weaving run to touch down under the posts at Murrayfield in 1977, are just two memorable incidents that can still raise the pulse rate when recalled in nostalgic TV replays.

Their exploits, of course, were firmly rooted in another exuberant Welsh 'golden age' in the 70s, when confidence was high and unshakeable – while today's talented young team are only now emerging from a run of morale-sapping defeats, buoyed by two grimly close-fought victories over France and Italy. It will take time to fully regain the confidence and belief that produced three Grand Slams since 2005 – but time is in short supply, with the Scots lying in wait on Saturday, also with two Six Nations wins under their interim head coach Scott Johnson, including the shock 12-8 victory over Ireland.

Scotland have won 32 of their 58 home matches against Wales, and are also a team slowly growing in confidence

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by Don John

after recent upheavals.

Johnson knows the Welsh camp well from his time as assistant team coach and they will have targeted this fixture as one that can continue their mini revival.

However, Wales can draw encouragement from the fact that in 11 meetings over the last 10 years, Scotland have prevailed only twice – 30-22 in 2003 (a defeat avenged by Wales in a 23-9 World Cup warm-up just a few months later), and 21-9 in 2007.

Both Scottish victories were at Murrayfield, but against that, Wales have won three of the five matches in Scotland over those 10 years, including a record-breaking 24-point margin between the two sides in the 46-22 Grand Slam triumph in 2005.

The Scots also helped Wales towards last year's Grand Slam in Cardiff, when Leigh Halfpenny scored 22 points in his team's 27-13 win, with a brace of tries and pin-point accuracy with the boot, after taking over the place kicking duties.

So the stage seems set for another lively encounter in the Scottish capital, traditionally one of the most popular Six Nations stop-overs for the travelling army of Welsh rugby followers.

Much will depend on the pack's ability to generate the awesome scrum power that overwhelmed Italy (who are expected to be elbowed aside at an expectant Twickenham this weekend), and thus lay the basis for a climactic Six Nations showdown with Wales in Cardiff the following week.

One man who will be taking more than a passing interest

in the key front row battles is legendary All Black hooker and captain, Sean Fitzpatrick, who was the guest speaker at a charity dinner in the Bear Hotel, Cowbridge, last Thursday.

Now domiciled in England and a highly-respected media pundit, he gave some penetrating insights into New Zealand's winning mentality, and just what it means to pull on the revered jersey, summed up in the phrase – *"the culture has never changed, once an All Black, always an All Black!"*

He is clearly impressed by the current English set-up, saying: *"It's quite scary. They are physically bigger and stronger than the rest of the world."*

Wales will soon have a chance to make a statement of their own in that regard – and hopefully prove that size isn't everything.

First though, they must concentrate on the immediate task in hand at Edinburgh this Saturday.

TEAM: Leigh Halfpenny (Blues); Alex Cuthbert (Blues), Jonathan Davies (Scarlets), Jamie Roberts (Blues), George North (Scarlets), Dan Biggar (Ospreys), Mike Phillips (Bayonne); Paul James (Bath), Richard Hibbard (Ospreys), Adam Jones (Ospreys), Alun Wyn Jones (Ospreys), Ian Evans (Ospreys), Ryan Jones (capt, Ospreys), Sam Warburton (Blues), Toby Faetau (Dragons).

Replacements: Ken Owens (Scarlets), Scott Andrews (Blues), Ryan Bevington (Ospreys), Andrew Coombs (Dragons), Justin Tipuric (Ospreys), Lloyd Williams (Blues), James Hook (Perpignan), Scott Williams (Scarlets).

Bonus point win for Barry sends them top of the table

BOTTOM of the league Penrygraig RFC were the visitors to the Reservoir Field on Saturday afternoon for a match Barry not only hoped to win but also gain a valuable bonus point, which may well prove to be decisive at the end of the season.

After the recent spell of bad weather which had affected most local sport, the afternoon was sunny but crisp with the ground in perfect condition for a game of open running rugby.

The local supporters were not to be disappointed because Barry started off in fine style and almost scored from the kick-off. For the first 10 minutes or so they had most of the

possession launching attack after attack on the Penrygraig line and should have scored but unfortunately, because of a spate of dropped passes and two missed penalties, possibly due to a little over zealotness, they had nothing to show for their efforts.

The first score of the game came after 15 minutes when a Tom Lee penalty gave the home side a well-deserved lead. This seemed to give Penrygraig a bit of impetus and during the next period of play they had a spell of good passing and scrummaging which made some supporters wonder whether Barry could win, let alone get a bonus point.

Their effort was rewarded after 20 minutes when their fullback kicked a penalty which most supporters thought went under the bar rather than over it. The referee naturally went with the decision of the linesmen and with the scores level, play went from end to end until right on the stroke of half time, when a period of Barry pressure gained them another penalty which Tom Lee successfully

kicked to give them a 6-3 interval lead.

The first 15 minutes or so of the second half was all Barry, with three tries being scored in their favour. The first came after a kick ahead and a 40-yard chase by Dave Provis, the second one was scored by winger Ethan Dicks after a 30-yard run, and the third came from another penetrating run by Dave Provis, to give him his second of the afternoon; all three converted by Tom Lee.

With the score at 27-3 and another defeat staring them in the face, no one would have blamed Penrygraig for throwing the towel in but to their credit they came back at Barry time and time again and their efforts were rewarded after 57 minutes with a well taken unconverted try in the corner after a period of forward pressure.

After 63 minutes, Barry were awarded another penalty wide out which Tom Lee popped over once again to give a score of 30-8 in Barry's favour, but where was that bonus point fourth try?

The last quarter of the

game saw Barry trying to get that elusive try, but full credit to Penrygraig, some stalwart defensive play kept them out. In the last five minutes of the game the Penrygraig outside centre was shown red after previously being warned by the referee.

This was an opportunity for Barry to strike and strike they did with Rhys Hardy going over for the much-needed bonus point try which Lee once again converted, for a final score of 37-8.

Although the backs did all the scoring in this game, the boys in the engine room played a tremendous part as usual, in particular Deguara and Jones, who were outstanding on the day.

This, although expected, was a good win for Barry which put them top of the table.

If they can improve on their passing and catching in their remaining fixtures, and maintain their discipline, then who is to say that they will not be promoted.

CO

Seven players can still take chess title

LAST week saw Barry Chess Club capture a new player; I am pleased to confirm that William Hewitt is now our highest graded player.

He will take board one for the Bosons whenever he is available, thereby pushing our other players onto lower boards and, hopefully, this will be reflected in better match results for the team.

The draw for the sixth round of the Barry Club Championship has now taken place.

Although seven players are in contention to take the title, it appears that only three of them have a realistic chance of winning the championship.

The competition could be decided on the form of third-placed Steve Cunliffe. In this round he is up against the leading contender, Lee Davis.

A victory for Lee would mean he is practically guaranteed to finish in the top two.

The man currently in second place, by virtue of a lower tie-break score only, Rhys Steele, has an entirely different opponent.

He is up against Dave Mahoney, the man currently leading the plate, who also has an outside chance of winning the main event.

Rhys has extensive opening knowledge, whereas Dave plays without that book knowledge which can bring his opponents into positions they are unaccustomed to.

Last year, this unconventional style should have brought Dave victory against Lee.

The other contenders, like Dave, have three points from five games and it would take a series of unusual results for the overall winner to come from these players, but stranger things

have happened.

Last week, the Bosons took on a Penarth Pirates team, who look doomed to relegation from division one. This was also the first match that William Hewitt played for us.

This new stronger team overwhelmed the Penarth team, to finish with four wins and a draw from the five boards.

The Bosons are still too far behind the two leading Cardiff teams to challenge for the top spot this season, but it augurs well for next season.

Our two division three sides have four matches to play within a very short space of time.

So far, only one of these four matches has been played. This game featured the second-placed Barry Quarks taking on their nearest rivals, the third placed Cardiff Crowns.

Could we poach points off our rivals, or would our promotion push leave us with egg on our faces?

The Quarks did manage to put on a good performance with four wins and only one loss, to record an emphatic win.

Peter Watkins was the unlucky player who was unable to complete the whitewash, as he came up against a vastly improving junior whose current grade does not reflect his current ability.

The Barry Chess Club meets each Monday at their home venue of The West End Club, St Nicholas Road, Barry, CF62 6QY with matches starting at 7.30pm.

New players of all ages and standards are welcomed.

For more details visit our website <http://barrychessclub.yolasite.com>.

P JONES

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